African Violet Magazine

MARCH 1951 VOLUME 4 NUMBER 3

African Violets

LIVING COLOR FOR YOUR ROOMS!

This is the page to watch for, to tempt your purse . . . won't you treat yourself to the joy of adding at least one of these "must-haves" to your collection . . . to keep it up-to-date!

LAVENDER BEAUTY

Imagine a silvery mauve in the lightest tint possible, large flowers with no coarse markings; medium sized foliage, a profuse bloomer that is just exquisite. If you must limit yourself to one new variety - - this is the one to buy! $2.50

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Very small stock on this one, early orders only. Not of "Supreme" background but its flowers peek out behind 50¢ piece! And, 9 or more buds to stalk . . . richest lavender coloring in center of flower. A real wonder! $3.00

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Light - blue - lavender which captivated everyone at our exhibit at the A.V.S. Convention this Spring! Not rose-lavender, but a blue-lavender, with a satiny finish, no markings. Blooms abundantly, with larger than average flowers. $2.50

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FLOWERS:

Immense dark blue giant-sized beauties with heavily fringed and fuzzy rick-rack type margins on the petal edges. Jewel-bright golden eye in the center. FOLIAGE: Ruffled and waved on medium stems with "girl-type" fluting, and "Supreme-type" habit, remaining compact. BRAND NEW VARIETY, LIMITED SUPPLY: $3.25.

Other New-in-my-Catalog VARIETIES:

ROSE MARIE NEW INTRODUCTION THIS YEAR!

Positively a true rose color, no suggestion of blue in the flower and it even has a rose-colored pistil! A new hybrid seedling with upper two petals a bit deeper than the lower three, but the overall tone is definitely ROSE. FLOWERS: Large as 50¢ piece, with stems of deep wine; FOLIAGE: Smooth tailored, lightly quilted with reddish reverse. This variety is very stunning alongside a blue or pure white variety. $3.00.

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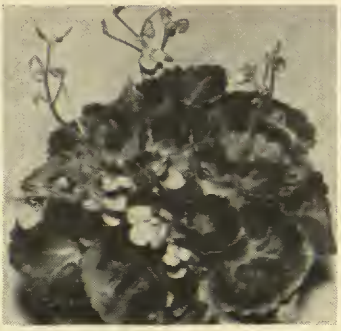
NEW INTRODUCTIONS

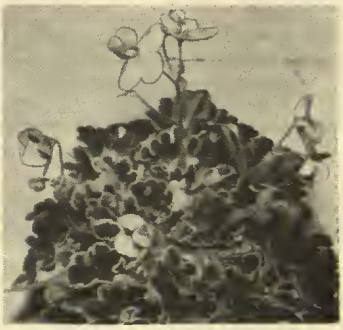
of MRS. FERNE KELLAR and MRS. F. W. GAMMELL

We have been very fortunate in obtaining exclusive distribution rights from Mrs. Kellar and Mrs. Gammell for their newest and finest violet creations. Society members know Mrs. Kellar as their first President and a hybridizer and cultural authority for more than twenty years. Mrs. Gammell has worked with Mrs. Kellar and has added new varieties of her own. The violets shown here are the fruits of many years of crossing and study. We think they mark an entirely new field of violet breeding for excellence of growth, attractiveness of foliage and beauty of flower.

BRONZE QUEEN
Intensely bronze, girl-type foliage with large, crenate, slightly quilted leaves. A strong grower with dozens of medium light blue flowers held erect and high. Twelve to fifteen flowers to a stem . . . $2.75



ORIENTAL GIRL
Another true bronze-leaved variety. You'll be delighted with the richness of color of these leaves and the fine, clear orchid bi-color blooms. Excellent growth habits and free-flowering . . . $2.50



"SEAFOAM" SEA QUEEN
"Seafoam" is an entirely new type of violet foliage. It resembles sea spray tossed by the breeze. Areas of cream white on dark green all curled, rick-racked and very ruffled to form the daintest, airiest foliage ever developed. It must be seen to be appreciated. Rich, heavy bloom of orchid color $2.75

"VIOLETTES" (Miniatures) THE MOST PRECIOUS THING IN VIOLETS

VIOLETTE PIXIE
Another rare foliage type, with chartreuse zones and rays cutting up deep green. Foliage is puffed and bubbled, giving a sparkling, gem-like quality to the plant. Flower is full size orchid bi-color. Extremely rare and most interesting . . . $2.75

VIOLETTE BRONZE BABY
A true-bronze miniature with girl type foliage. Leaves are rich bronze, heavily quilted and deeply serrated. Extremely fine growth habits mark this dainty beauty. Full-size orchid flower . . . $2.50

VIOLETTE BRONZE ELF
Miniature, girl-type, deep, deep bronze foliage very glossy and neat . . . foliage is "bubbly" and twinkles and sparkles like carved and polished mahogany. Flower is large and orchid in color . . . $2.75

"ROSETTE" RED

Another entirely new type foliage. Resembles a strong "rosette" or calla-lily. Leaves are strong, erect and deeply scalloped. Plant looks entirely new and different. Dark Red flowers about the color of Red King . . . $2.75

Growers and fanciers who have seen these new violets have been extremely enthusiastic about them . . . actually they add an entirely new look to the Saintpaulia. You must really SEE them to appreciate their beauty. Prices quoted above are prepaid. We guarantee perfect delivery. Orders will be shipped in rotation and are subject to supply limitations.

THE MAHR COMPANY

Box 585, Des Moines, Iowa

African Violet Magazine

A Quarterly Publication

C O N T E N T S

Vol. 4 March 1951 No. 3

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EDITORIAL STAFF

Alma Wright, Editor
4030 McCalla Ave., Knoxville 15, Tenn.

Mary Parker, Assistant Editor
Harrill Hills, Knoxville 18, Tenn.

Evan Roberts, Research Editor
355 N. Harrison St., E. Lansing, Mich.

Floyd L. Johnson, Advertising Mgr.
79 West Gibson St., Canandaigua, N. Y.

Maxine Wangberg, Club Editor
1920 West 3rd, Perry, Iowa.

Neil C. Miller, Mgr. Veterans Affairs
Layton's Lake, Penns Grove, N. J.

Contributing Editors - Boyce Edens, Regina Gottshall, LeBerta Morgan, H. G. Harvey

News Reporters – Harriett F. Lawton
Emily Hodan Daisy Jones
Warren Gottshall Phyllis Ferrall
Martha Mears Ruth Dahnke
Florence Foltz Lauretta L. Littig

Homing Pigeon Dept.:
Helen Pochurek, News Editor
14425 McCracken Rd., Cleveland, Ohio

Gladys Canner, Membership Mgr.
Route 1, Creek Rd., Herkimer, N. Y.

OFFICERS

Mrs. Arthur Radtke, President
3334 Orion St.
Cincinnati 13, Ohio

Mr. Floyd L. Johnson, 1st Vice-Pres.
79 West Gibson Street
Canandaigua, N. Y.

Mrs. C. H. Harris, 2nd Vice-Pres.
757 Athens Boulevard
Los Angeles 44, California

Mr. Neil C. Miller, Rec. Sec'ty.
Layton's Lake
Penns Grove, N. J.

Mrs. W. P. Dahnke, Corres. Sec'ty.
5611 Newton Road, Route 2
Merriam, Kansas

Mrs. Earl Mutchner, Membership Sec.
606 Richmond Ave.
Richmond, Indiana

Mr. Boyce M. Edens, Treas.
2694 Lenox Rd., N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia

TALL STEMMED GOBLETS

Adelaid Early, N. C.

I became very enthused and interested in the study and propagation of African violets while a resident of Oak Ridge, Tennessee. I learned much from my neighbors, Mrs. Murray, Mrs. Scott and Mrs. Bowman as they grew very splendid plants.

After leaving Oak Ridge I spent several months with my daughter in Winston Salem. She had just moved into a new home with two lovely large picture windows having a north-west exposure.

For the sake of beauty as well as convenience, eight of my choice plants were transplanted into tall stemmed crystal goblets. For a planting medium I used a mixture of peat moss and vermiculite with about 2 tablespoonfuls of well rotted cow manure to each glass. The plants soon became root bound and continued to bloom profusely all winter and thru the spring.

Friends who came were charmed and rather amazed that such lovely specimen violets could be grown in glasses without drainage. Top watering interested them too . . . as it was so successful.

My Blue Girl is exceptionally lovely, but White Lady had to be put back into a pot with a drain as it did not seem happy in the glass without drainage . . . though I thought I was most careful with watering.

Other plants have been planted in glasses now that I am in my own home. Five large picture windows are filled, and they are a riot of bloom.

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African Violets

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Strong—Healthy—Disease and Pest Free

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GEORGIA BELLE. Large two-toned orchid-lavender. Spoon shaped foliage. **Each $2.50**

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LADY CONSTANCE. Extremely large deep purple blossoms. Outstanding! **Each $2.00; Three $5.00**

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FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Friends:

Congratulations to Martha Husted - - - she is the winner of the Convention Cartoon Contest. Our many warm and hearty thanks to all the wonderful members who sent in their identification letters. Most of you were correct. Reading from left to right — Alma Wright, Myrtle Radtke, Boyce Edens, Esther Schadewald, and Warren Gottshall.

See you in Dayton!

Sincerely,

Alma Wright

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Change of address: Send your new address at least 30 days before the date of the issue with which it is to take effect. Send old address with the new, enclosing if possible your address label.

President's Message

On to Dayton

A hearty welcome to our many new members! We are very happy to have you with us and we believe you will enjoy your membership.

Sincere congratulations and best wishes to our numerous new local clubs and chapters. You are doing a very fine and worthwhile work — we are proud of you and wish you unlimited success in your every undertaking.

Having had a peek into what is in store for us at our Fifth Annual Convention to be held in Dayton in April, I am most enthusiastic. The arrangements made by Mrs. Ralph Berst, Mrs. Earl Mutchner and their committees are now practically complete and most promising, - - even the menus are planned and they sound wonderful. I'm sure you will really enjoy the food.

The program being planned by Mr. H. G. Harvey with the able assistance of Mr. Boyce M. Edens sparkles with interesting speakers and subjects and will be educational as well as pleasing. This promises to be the best convention we've ever had.

In addition to all this there is the School for Qualifying Judges. This is to take place on Thursday, April 26th. It was planned originally for Wednesday, April 25th but since there was some opposition to a four day meeting and because we cannot have the large space necessary for our opening luncheon meeting on Thursday - - the judging school will be held Thursday previous to the convention which will start with a meeting at 2:30 P.M. We hope this will be satisfactory to all.

Your committee for the judge qualifying course Mrs. James Carey, Mrs. Ott Rule and Mrs. Frank Parker have worked hard and faithfully. This school being very important and something entirely new and different, understandably, from other judges' schools had to be very carefully and painstakingly planned. The girls have worked out a very fine procedure and we believe you will be well pleased with it.

Help your committee please by getting your reservations in promptly. Your committees, directors, members of the magazine staff, and officers give a great deal of time and thought to the work of the society and receive no compensation whatever. The members can aid by expressing their opinions and ideas. We are always happy to receive your suggestions.

Our beloved and hard working magazine editor asks for your help. Please print your name plainly on your application and if your name in our handbook is not spelled correctly, if the address is not sufficient or if you are moving, please notify Mrs. Wright. It is her desire to get your magazine to you as quickly as possible - - so please help her.

Will be looking forward to seeing you in Dayton and do let us get acquainted - - May this be the friendliest and happiest convention ever! !

Sincerely,

Myrtle Radtke

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Saintpaulia Grotei **A. Engler**

Photograph by Harvey Cox

Grown As A Cascade or Hanging Specimen

Saintpaulia Grotei . .

A quite spectacular plant, that will stir the imagination, is S. grotei the trailing or creeping African violet, a new species plant imported from Africa. S. grotei has large medium green round dentate leaves with creeping brown stems that sometimes root at the nodes. Flowers are blue-violet shading to a darker blue-violet toward the center. It may be allowed to vine or may be supported wound around a small totem pole.

Saintpaulia Grotei **A. Engler** Photograph by Harvey Cox

Grown As A Climbing Plant

Full description by Evan Roberts in Volume III, Number 3, March 1950 African Violet Magazine.

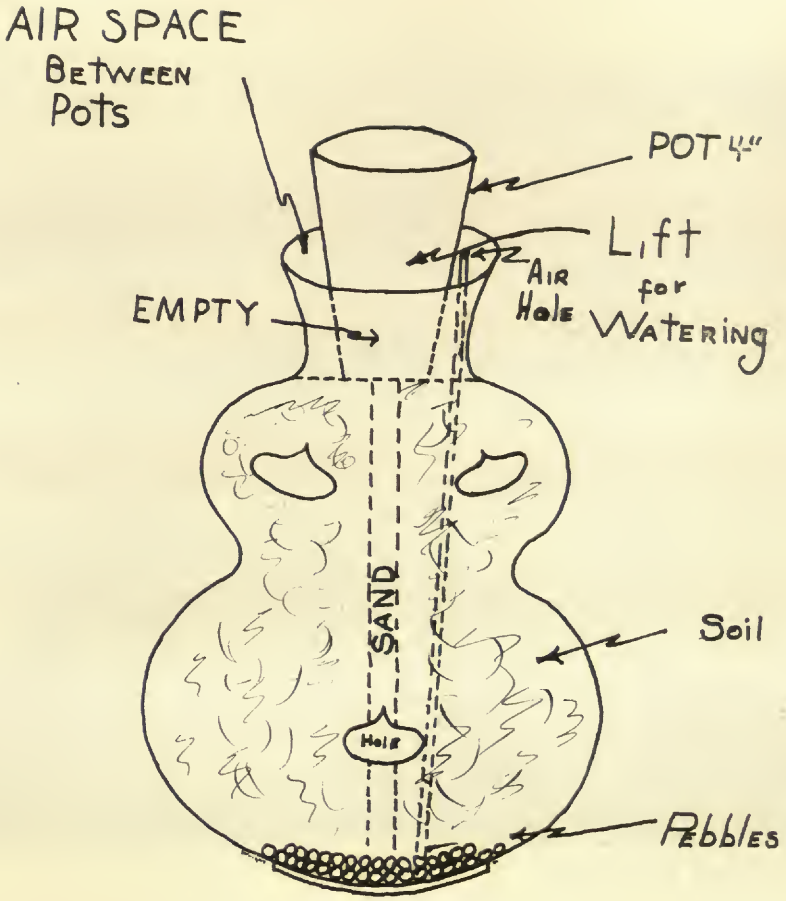
Try a STRAWBERRY JAR

Erma Petrick, Ill.

Not long after I joined the Chicago African Violet Club we were invited to exhibit plants at the Crystal Lake Society Show. I thought about what I would exhibit and decided on a Strawberry Jar. I had several plants and did not mind experimenting with them . . . so with violets that gave promise of early bloom I prepared the jar and planted it.

My method was as follows: The jar used was 12 inches high and had 8 openings besides the one at the top which was 5½ inches wide. I sterilized the jar, sufficient limestone chips, charcoal, and builders sand to work with. Beginning by placing a layer of limestone chips in the bottom, next a layer of charcoal then sand to fill in the airspaces . . . I filled the bottom of the jar before adding my regular soil mixture to which was added a little bone meal. Thus the jar was filled to the level of the first openings in which the plants were placed and soil carefully put in around the roots. A ½ inch aluminum tube was set in place (see aluminum tube is marked air hole in diagram) so that I might better control the watering of these plants in the bottom.

Mrs. Petrick's prize winning Strawberry Jar she exhibited at the Crystal Lake Show last Spring.



It is not possible to water them thru the openings as the water rolls off before the soil absorbs it, and the plants soon grow so large they close the opening anyway. The jar was then filled with soil to the second level of openings - the aluminum tube filled with water and the soil wet down very lightly with Hyponex water. Then let it set for a day to settle before planting any more. When you plant the second time use care in setting your plants and in filling in the soil so as not to have air pockets. Sprinkle the top layer of soil with Hyponex water very lightly and fill the tube again.

Last I add a little hill of sand (about 1 inch) which does not show in the diagram and on this I place a little glass bowl which does not show either. This will leave an air space about ½ inch wide around sides of the glass bowl for ventilation. Place a little sand in the bottom of the bowl. Any plant in a separate pot you wish to use may be set in here and it may be moved as fancy dictates as the glass bowl serves only as a jardeniere to hold the pot.

A little "horse sense" in watering is necessary. This Strawberry Jar will not need as much water as plants growing in clay pots or other small containers. The jar is glazed and it holds more soil - evaporation is slower - the ½ inch space around the glass bowl is all the ventilation it has so please do not over water!

With this method and care all of my violets lived and have bloomed the second time . . . so I have planted more jars. My last one has a hole in the bottom for drainage and it seems to be doing especially well.

Many Strawberry Jars on the market are barrel shaped and too high and I am afraid my system might not work so well in them unless care was taken to control the dampness in the bottom of the container. Possibly a hole for drainage and more gravel would be advisable.

My three jars have been very lovely and most successful . . . I urge you to try one. Everyone will admire it I am sure - even people who do not grow African violets as yet.

Mrs. Gammell and Mrs. Kellar

WHAT'S IN A SEED

Ada Magill, Ill.

While admiring an extensive collection of African violets some one asked, "Just how far can these African violets take one?"

Before taking a trip to parts of Iowa late this summer, I might have ventured a guess to that inquiry, but not now. Late in August, Mary Mayer, of Calumet City, Illinois, and I started out to visit Mrs. Ferne V. Kellar in Des Moines, Iowa. It was about five o'clock Monday afternoon when we rang Ferne's doorbell. She greeted us with open arms and before hats could be removed we exclaimed, "THE VIOLETS"—they were everywhere we looked.

I had met Ferne at the 1948 and 1949 conventions and knew her through correspondence and having bought leaves of her lovely saintpaulias through the mail. Mary had never met her; nevertheless, we were old friends from the moment we set foot inside her door.

As we tried to look further at violets in rooms we passed through Ferne said, "Follow me," taking us to the basement. We paused all along the way to give a look at saintpaulias in the kitchen windows and in a small porch off the stairway. Before we reached the last step to the basement greenhouse our eyes fell upon several thousand plants from tiny seedlings to mature blooming plants. "In the basement," you say. "Yes." They are beautifully grown on long greenhouse type benches the full length of each wall in two rooms. Industrial type fluorescent daylight lamps suspended on chains above the benches furnish excellent light for the growing and blooming. In fact, as a result of the regular hours of measured daylight, the deep rich color in the foliage is brought out, along with an unusual satin-like sheen which is most noticeable and desirable. On wide shelves above and below the benches are flat after flat of leaves being propagated. Here and there among the plants

under the lights you see a coffee can or a small box with a carpet of soft green across it. Upon inquiring, we were told they are seedlings just coming through the soil.

I was anxious to see the Mulberry Girl, the Mulberry Girl seedlings and the Blue Girl crossed with Neptune of which I had leaves under propagation. "They are in here," Ferne said, leading the way to an adjoining room. A portion (about 9'6" x 16'6") at the end of this room is a true greenhouse with glass built up over it. She picked up a two inch pot as she remarked, "This is what they look like now." Almost horrified, I told her they look like chickens that had been picked except for the wings. She quickly assured us we would get to see a number of well groomed Mulberry seedlings the next day when she would take us to see Mrs. Gammell's violets. (Lest you wonder if the skeleton plants were caused from disease or pests, you must remember I purchased leaves some time ago, as have countless other collectors, thus stripping the limited supply to their present state.)

In the midst of questions and admirations Ferne said, "I had better be thinking about something for you gals to eat." "EAT —when there are African violets to be seen and talked about," we retorted. However, along about nine P. M. we sat down to a bountiful dinner. It was over that dinner table (we talked way into the wee hours of the morning) that we learned that Ferne Kellar's interest in saintpaulias began some twenty years ago with one plant given to her by an Aunt.

It was in those early days of her hobby, which, like many another hobby has grown into a business, she began to try her hand at cross pollination; to be specific, that was fifteen years ago. Many of her seedlings have found their way into homes of violet enthusiasts, known only as Kellar's seedlings, Kellar's Blue or by no name at all because Ferne did not deem them worthy of a name. Judiciously selecting parentage for fine foliage, size and color of bloom, Mulberry Girl was created. As the name signifies, it is Girl type, with deeply crenated, yes, almost scalloped, cup shaped leaf. It has a large white spot at the throat of the leaf. A stately, large, deep rich red blossom stands well above the foliage measuring one and a half to two inches across. This is a choice plant and one you will want in your collection. From self-pollination of Mulberry Girl there is now a series of beautiful seedlings. To date these plants are known only by number, that is to say, Mulberry Girl seedling No. 1, No. 2, No. 3, and so on.

The following morning Mary and I watched the clock for the time to roll around for that promised visit and look at Mrs. Gammell's violet plants. The time came—as we entered the living room of Mrs. Grace Gammell, two arm-side tables pulled close to the windows and filled with exquisite, well grown African violet plants drew us like a magnet. In harmony, Mary and I asked, "WHAT ARE THESE?" "They are Ferne's Mulberry seedlings," Grace answered. For a minute or two there was a profound silence—we just looked, until suddenly, one of us excitedly asked, "What is this one?" "I call that

Cont. on Page 47

Oriental Girl

"Seafoam" Sea Queen

More about . . . .

Growing African Violets under Fluorescent Light

H. G. Harvey, Ga.

The articles about growing African violets under fluorescent light, by Fay Stillwell, which were published in the September, 1949 and December, 1950 issues of the Magazine have been of value to a large number of people. Among them is Mrs. Philip Genntison, who lives in Atlanta, Georgia. Mrs. Genntison, wanted to raise African violets. But her house is located in a very pretty grove of trees, so much of a grove that none of her windows had sunlight exposure enough to raise the violets. When she read Mrs. Stillwell's article, she started in her basement, with the result that she now has over ninety plants in four inch pots and larger which are the envy and delight of her neighbors. Her first project was a two tier table, fitted with one fluorescent lamp fixture on each tier, each fixture containing two 40 watt "daylight" fluorescent tubes 40 inches long. These lights are turned on by a time switch, whose original intended destiny was to turn lights on and off in a chicken house. The lights are turned on 14 hours a day during the summer months and 16 hours a day during the winter. This table, shown in Figure 1, has developed into the exhibition table, and at the time the picture was made contained forty plants of twenty-five varieties,and all but two of the plants were in bloom.

The next expansion was a second, similar table. This was intended to be the propagating table and is illustrated in Figure 2. As will be seen, this table soon became more than a propagating table, the larger plants gradually taking it over. However, Mrs. Genntison reports that it was highly successful in growing leaves, and has never lost a leaf she started

Mrs. Genntison with Exhibition Table

Large plants have taken over the space that was intended for propagating young plants and leaf cuttings. Note quantity of bloom and fine foliage.

under the fluorescent lights. But the number of plants increased, as they have a habit of doing with either artificial or natural lighting, and two more fixtures were rigged up over a ledge at the edge of the basement wall. The menage now consists of six fixtures with a total of twelve 40 watt tubes, all controlled by one time switch. The cost of operating these twelve tubes is about seven cents per day.

The quantity of bloom is excellent. One Ionantha with a twenty-four inch leaf spread, in an eight inch pot, had 130 blooms at one time. A younger Pink Beauty, in about the equivalent of a four inch pot, has had forty blooms. The plants bloom practically continuously, with very few rest periods. The color and size of blooms is fine. In general, the blues are a little bluer than in natural light, the pinks and whites are true in color, and only the reds show a slight tendency to get a little bluer and not as red as they are under more normal conditions. The leaves may be a little lighter than they are in sunlight, but they are extremely healthy, smooth and clean. The plants grow vigorously and rapidly. Eight inches from the top leaf of the plant to the tube appears to be the best distance.

Cultural technique is the same as for more conventional conditions. Heat is no problem. The temperature gets as low as sixty degrees in the winter, and very seldom goes above seventy-five degrees in the summer. Watering is done from the top. The soil is a mixture of ⅓ woods dirt, ⅓ peat moss and ⅓ sand, with a little sheep manure added, about a tablespoonful to three cups of the mixture. The fertilizing procedure is as follows: 1st week, superphosphate, ¼ teaspoon per quart; 2nd week, Hyponex, ¼ teaspoon per quart; 3rd week, Vitamin B1, minimum dosage; 4th week, sheep manure water, 1 teacup to 3 gallons (let stand three weeks before using). Then the routine is repeated. Leaves are started in either water or vermiculite, vermiculite being preferred. In either case, Hyponex, ¼ teaspoon per quart is used. With vermiculite, this solution is used to water the leaves, in "water" the Hyponex solution is used through out.

Fluorescent lighting has been the answer to Mrs. Genntison's problem. It has enabled her to grow African violets with outstanding success and satisfaction under conditions where otherwise she would have been unable to grow them. As usual, the violets are spreading out, covering more territory all the time. There is room for one more fixture in the basement. After that the only available space is a dark room in the corner where Mr. Genntison pursues his photographic hobby. Predictions are dangerous, but Mr. Genntison is already looking apprehensive when his wife talks about how crowded her African violets are getting.

Species Nomenclature of the African Violet

Continued, With Special Attention to The

Species Saintpaulia Goetzeana

Harvey Cox, California and Evan Roberts, Michigan

Photo by Philip Coleman

Are you going to Africa? If you are, then here is a species of African violet for which to look. It is one that has not yet been introduced into the United States. No less a famous botanist than Professor Adolph Engler, whose classification of plants is used in practically all of the plant manuals of all the countries, first named this very interesting plant in the year 1900.

Saintpaulia goetzeana Engl. has a rather tragic history because Mr. W. Goetze, its discoverer, died of a tropical disease soon after he found this species. Fortunately, he prepared a very good herbarium specimen and took detailed notes and managed to have the results sent back to Professor Engler of Berlin for its botanical rating. Engler published the description in his Botanische Jahrbucher, volume 28, number 4, July 13, 1900, in Latin and German. The drawings shown in this article, as well as much of the written material, have been taken from this text.

Saintpaulia goetzeana Engl. is an herb of the same succulent type as Saintpaulia ionantha Wendland, but distinguished by developed stems 1—1.5 dm. long with 1.5—2 cm. long internodes in the lower and middle part of the stem, with shorter ones in the upper part of the stem. The petioles are 2-4 cm. long, the leaf blades 1.8—2.8 cm. long and wide. The flower stem is 3—3.5 cm. long, with pedicles 6—8mm. long. The sepals are 3 mm. long and barely 1 mm. wide. The upper part of the corolla is about 6 mm. long and 4 mm. wide, connected at the bottom, the side lobes 7—8 mm. long and 7 mm. wide, the front part 9—10 mm. long and 7—8 mm. wide. The filaments are almost 3 mm. long with 2 broad anthers. The 1.2 mm. long ovary extends upward into a 2 mm. long style.

With this description and by the drawings, you now have a means of identifying this species of African violet, but where will you find it growing? In Africa, in Tanganyika Territory. Yes, there is the place to look, but Tanganyika is a large land area! You would have to search many miles, if Mr. W. Goetze had not recorded that he found it growing in central Uluguru; in the primeval forests on the south side of the Lukwangule plateaus, 1300 to 2000 meters on large bolders among moss. But wait! Perhaps you have lost your way. That is easy, just ask a native where you can find a plant known as MAUHIAMBULUGI, which is the native African name of the plant.

Explanation Of The Drawing — opposite page

A Entire plant; B Longitudinal section of flower; C Flower cut open and spread out; D Stamens; E 2 sepals, discus and pistil; Cross section through the lower part of the ovary; G Cross section through the upper part.

Saintpaulia Goetzeana Engl.

J. Pohl delin. Verlag von Wilhelm Engelmann in Leipzig.

Meet My . . . Favorites

Florence Foltz, Pa.

Love Birds — Blue Ribbon winner 1950 National Show

None of us will ever forget the thrilling moment when our first violet babies peeped out of the ground; equally exciting was the day our first plants bloomed, but for the thrill supreme, try seedlings. At least, it seems like nothing could be more thrilling, - - - when those tiny green specks appear, and miraculously grow into blooming plants, - - but, violet friends, when a far off dream, such as sometime growing "something really good" suddenly comes true, there are no words to describe it. I felt numb, I wanted to laugh and cry at the same time, and I certainly was not

Blue Snow

responsible for anything I said or did for more than a week! As you may have surmised, this wonderful surprise came when my seedling "Love Birds" won First Prize in the seedling class at our Fourth Annual Convention held May 12-13 at Philadelphia. Since Love Birds came from seed purchased from a very dear friend, Miss Fay Wilcox, may I here give her the credit due her for the part she played in my success.

There comes a time, I'm sure, in every African violet enthusiast's life when he, or she, knows practically all there is to know about raising violets. I passed that stage a few months after the baby had grown from my first leaf. Many of you will doubtless remember the "Home Garden" topic, "How I Succeed with African Violets." At that time I couldn't even get them to bloom, but I HAD raised one from a leaf, so I sat down and wrote 750 words on the subject. With my spirits high, (was there anything more I could know about them?) I decided to try raising them from seeds, and whether it was dumb luck, or whether the good Lord was just making it easier for me to bear the shock I was to receive later, the seeds germinated. Then the sad letter came from the contest wishing me better luck next time. How could there be a "next time" - - I had told them all I knew the FIRST time and didn't even rate an Honorable Mention. Then I suddenly realized that maybe I didn't know

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Mrs. Peters in her greenhouse looks over some of her collection of saintpaulias

How to Use "Fermate" *Fungicide*

Rosa Peters, Mich.

"FERMATE" FOR TREATING PLANTS USED AS A SPRAY OR DUST

TO PREPARE SPRAY

Use 2 level tablespoons per gallon of water. Do not attempt to mix dry Fermate powder with the full amount of water. First make a thin, smooth paste by adding water to Fermate and stirring; then add paste to water in sprayer and agitate.

TO PREPARE DUST

Mix 1 part, by weight, of Fermate with 9 parts, by weight, of any commonly used diluent, preferably talc or pyrophyllite.

APPLICATION

Begin application of Fermate before diseases are apparent or at first sign of infection — preferably before infection occurs. Applications should be made often enough to keep new growth covered; once every 7 to 14 days is a good schedule to follow. However, timing of application is best gauged by the growth of the plants and the weather. Wet weather favors the development of fungous diseases and more frequent applications are required. In prolonged dry spells, applications are

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SHOWS

MUSCLE SHOALS AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY

A most interesting show was held in Florence, Alabama in November by the Muscle Shoals African Violet Society of the Tri-Cities Area. Featuring a theme of "Home Sweet Home" many unusual displays captured the interest of the Violet public during the two days the plants were on display.

An educational arrangement shows a wheel chair on which was placed improvised shelves with 14 sick plants dressed in white crepe paper . . . These convalesing violets had been dipped in a parathion mixture before being placed in the show. This exhibit was set apart from the other plants to discourage contamination. Each pot was labeled with its ailment and the treatment prescribed for its cure.

Below — The Nursery was an exhibit of full grown plants attached to young plantlets by ribbon. The objective of this arrangement was to acquaint the public with properly named varieties showing the blossom and leaf pattern of an adult plant in comparison with a young and undeveloped specimen. Arranged by Mrs. W. R. Kershaw and Mrs. S. F. Johnson.

Above — Opening the Muscle Shoals Show. Miss Helen Smith, Cotton Queen of Lauderdale County officially opened the show by clipping the ivy vine while Mrs. M. M. Striplin, Chairman of the Show and Mrs. M. J. Hester, President of the Society stood by.

CANADA EXHIBIT

Mrs. C. A. Ray, and Mrs. B. J. Ewens of Port Credit, and Mrs. Douglas Jones of Toronto, Canada, collaborated on an unusual exhibit of Saintpaulias at the North Toronto Horticultural Society's Annual Flower Show on Saturday, August 19, 1950, in Eglinton United Church.

These lovely plants were shown in a natural setting of mossy logs, rock formations, and ferns reflected in a small pool. The glistening whites and delicate pastels of Amethyst, Amazon Pink, Blue Eyes, Lavender Lady, Double Light Lavender, Double Crystal Blue, and West Coast Amethyst were especially lovely against the delicacy of wild Maidenhair ferns. The richer tints of Frieda, Red Head, Redland, duPont Lavender Pink, Norseman Amazon, Alice Blue Gown, and Blue Warrior, against the deeper green of the rock ferns, made a very pleasing contrast also.

Of especial interest was the grouping of Lady Geneva, and all the newest doubles ranging from pale lavender to dark orchid, and pale blue to deep violet blue.

Another group that came in for special attention was of the lovely "Girl" plants with their beautifully scalloped and patterned leaves—pinks, lavenders, reds, and blues. Also the group of Fringettes with their rippled foliage and fringed blossoms.

These three ladies started collecting plants about three years ago as a hobby, and to-day they each have one of the finest collections in Canada.

Below — Exhibit at North Toronto Horticultural Society's Annual Flower Show.

Mrs. C. H. Harris, Mrs. Carolyn Rector, Mrs. J. E. Mackey, and Mrs. Ira Marsh

LOS ANGELES SHOW

The Los Angeles Chapter of the African Violet Society held its first African Violet Show on June 6th, at Exposition Park Club House. Over 3000 persons viewed the show in the four hours it was open. Over one hundred varieties of African violets were on display, including, Evan Robert's S. grotei and S. tongwensis, which were displayed by Harvey Cox, of Long Beach.

Mrs. Holmes Harris displayed a group of Armacost and Royston original plants. Sweepstakes for the most points in the show went to Mrs. Harris.

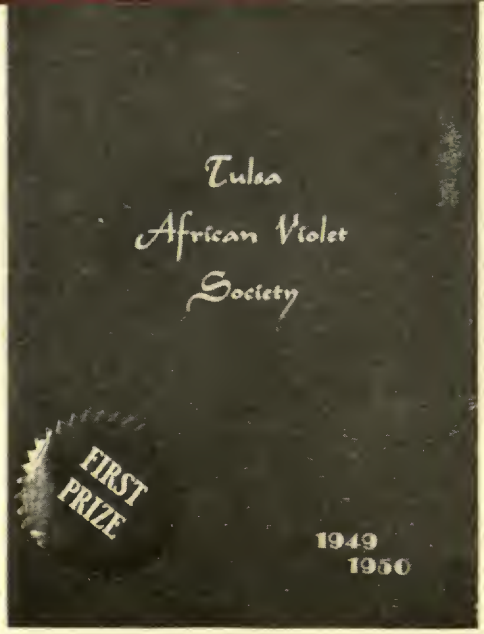
The show was attractively staged by Mrs. Fred K. Ehardt and Mrs. D. R. Jones. An outstanding feature was an educational exhibit arranged by Mrs. Holmes Harris. A unique display was entered by Mr. Ira Marsh, husband of our secretary, Geneive Marsh. It was a board covered with aluminum foil in silver and magenta, displaying the word WELCOME, with eighteen inch letters, using sixty small two-inch pots with violets, placed in holes drilled in the letters. It was outstanding and won a first award.

Ruby Sharon displayed her collection of violets grown in wik-fed pots. There were many other unique displays using the Saintpaulia. Several nearby growers, Ted Banks and Cecil Houdyshel, had beautiful displays, as did three local florists. Mrs. Holmes Harris was show chairman. Mrs. Mildred Nitsch, Mrs. Ernst Ruebel and Mrs. A. J. Maxham were the judges.

The highlight of the afternoon was the crowning of the "Violet Queen," charming and demure little Dorlene Marsh, of San Pedro, who was also an exhibitor in the Children's Section. A special prize in the division was awarded by the Saintpaulia Society of Long Beach.

On July 21, our chapter opened its new year with the installation of its newly elected officers. Mrs. J. Ernest Mackey, Regional Councilor of this district, was the installing officer. The officers to serve the ensuing year are:

President,	Mrs. Carolyn Rector
1st Vice-Pres.,	Mrs. Holmes Harris
2nd Vice-Pres.,	Mrs. D. R. Jones
Rec. Secy.,	Mrs. James Reeves
Treasurer,	Mrs. John Gallagher
Corr. Secy.,	Mrs. Gower Watters



Yearbooks . . .

PRIZE WINNING YEARBOOKS

Pictured are the three prize winning yearbooks at the Philadelphia meeting last spring.

First Prize — The Tulsa African Violet Society.
With a handsome dark purple suede cover this was a most outstanding book.

Second Prize — African Violet Club of New Jersey.
Grey suede with purple violet on the cover. A very lovely book.

Third Prize — Delaware County, Pennsylvania African Violet Society.

This book has an attractive grey cover with a color picture of Ionantha.

Red Head

duPont Lavender Pink

Orchid Flute

Blossoms Galore!!!

Margaret Travis, Tenn.

As we walk along the path of African violet culture, we are all searching for something different to add to our collections. Some are searching for something new in odd shaped foliage; others for blossoms with assorted colors. All in all, the majority of violet growers have but one outstanding aim in mind; that is, an abundance of blossoms on all plants.

Mr. Albert More of Junction City, Kansas, has the answer to the bountiful blossom problem. Mr. More grows all of his Saintpaulias in Wik-Fed pots.

The room in which he raises his plants is on the south side of the house, size 14' x 8'. The walls consist mostly of windows. There are two windows on the east and west sides, and four on the south side.

Mr. More has invented his own type of shelves There are eighteen shelves holding over a hundred and fifty plants which are from six months to two years old. These plants produce an abundance of blossoms, as you can observe by the accompanying pictures.

The sun is kept out, or diffused, according to the time of day, by a screen over the windows called Koolshade. This screen is made of flat copper wire and is fitted like a Venetian blind, which lets in plenty of light but keeps the sun out.

There are different ways of controlling humidity. If the humidity drops below 40° in Mr. More's sun room, he uses a Hankscraft Vaporizer, which holds seven pints of water and is operated by electricity. The water is steaming in about five minutes after the vaporizer is started. It then takes from five to six hours to attain the desired degree of humidity. This degree can be controlled for several hours by closing the inside doors of the sun room.

The following are good pointers given by Mr. More on his method of African Violet Culture in Wik-Fed pots:

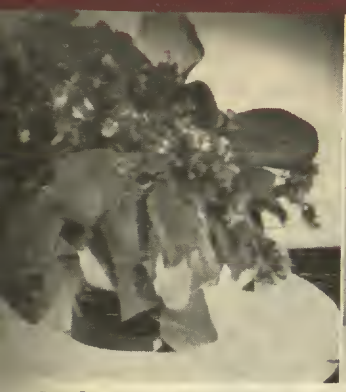
1- Water once each week, but do not let the water stand in the containers all the time. One can determine the need of water by the look, or feel of the wick and soil. If either the wick or soil feels damp, do not water that day. A good method to go by is to touch the back of the hand with the end of the wick. If the wick is damp it will feel cool. If it is dry and needs water, it will feel warm.

2- Since all plants do not require the same amount of water, it is necessary to check the plants at least twice each week.

3- Fill the containers to the top of the post on which the pots rest with warm water.

4- Let the soil dry out to a certain degree between waterings. This allows the air to penetrate and aerate the soil. It would be fine if one could gauge the time just right; namely, just before the leaves wilt.

5- The wick should extend to the bottom of the container.



Double Duchess

Blue Boy

Viking

6- Feed plants about once each month with your favorite plant food. Feed during the fall, winter, and spring months. Do not feed sick plants because they cannot take extra food at this time.

7- When plants are resting or out of bloom, water about once each week very sparingly. Fill the containers about ½ full. Keep these plants on the dry side being careful not to let them become too dry.

8- Mr. More says, "Baby plants can be potted into 4" Wik-Fed pots". They may be left in these pots for two years. It is not necessary to repot them sooner unless you wish to divide a multiple crown plant. This division should not be made during hot weather.

In short, watering is the important factor in raising healthy plants with large and bountiful blossoms. Mr. More has proven this by his years of experience in growing our favorite house plant, the African violet, in Wik-Fed pots.

Turn Them for Beauty

Martha Mears, Ind.

To have a beautiful symmetrical violet plant that one is proud to show to friends or to enter in a flower show is not too difficult an undertaking once a few simple rules are observed. One of the rules that must be followed systematically is the turning of the container in which the violet is planted. A good way to do this and to know that you have not forgotten, is to turn the pot one quarter turn on the table or window sill each time that you water the violet, being sure to turn in the same direction each time. This will keep your foliage flat and even, otherwise the leaves will grow to the light causing the plant to be one sided.

One should also try to avoid curled leaves. On a healthy plant free from disease and insects, this is generally caused by too much light. This is a problem that I believe each person will have to work out by himself as no two homes are situated alike, some being close to other buildings and close to trees, while others are in open country. Try moving your violet to different windows in your home or shading the plant some until you have overcome this difficulty. Sometimes they will grow beautifully in sunny windows with just lace curtains to shade them.

When once the right window is found, leave the violet there. With turning and proper feeding, it will grow into a plant of which you will surely be proud. So — turn them for beauty!

This violet-filled window and the propagation box occupy a corner of the bedroom.

Mrs. Turney and a corner of her living room. Some of her seedlings occupy the small table at the front.

Speaking of Violets

Ethel Buzzard, Cowden, Ill.

Mrs. W. G. Turney's love of flowers has won friends for her in many circles outside her home town of Shelbyville, Illinois. But of all the flowers, the African violet seems to be her choice. And nearest her heart are the violets she has raised from seed, seed she has produced herself.

Mrs. Turney was cross pollinating some plants when we arrived. She pinched off a blossom from a Blue Girl and folded back the pedals to form a base. Then with a needle she slit the anther and touched it to the pistil of a White Queen. "I usually pollinate only two pistils of a plant," she explained. "With just two seed pods to develop, the plant can go right on blooming as usual."

We wondered how long it would be before she could be sure the pollination had "taken". Then Mrs. Turney really warmed up to her subject. She told us the seed pod would begin to enlarge ever so slightly in about two weeks if her efforts were to be successful. Then the pistil would curl down and seemingly try to hide under a leaf and in about nine months the seed would mature.

Mrs. Turney unfolded a paper. "Here are some seeds that have just matured." We gazed at the tiny black specks and wondered. She pointed to a collection of plants on a small table and told us she had raised all of them from seed.

The seeds had been planted one September and the first plant peeped through the ground in November. They kept coming up at intervals all the following summer, she informed us. There were three different shades of orchid and several shades of blue and white blossoms.

"Those various shades all came from one seed pod," said Mrs. Turney. When we wondered about the sturdiness of such

plants, she told us that plants raised from seed are free from disease. "And people are always anxious to buy them," she added.

But Mrs. Turney was quick to emphasize that she never ships any plants. She sells only to persons who call for them at the house. Even at that she says the "grapevine trade" is quite extensive. One day a woman from Alabama who was passing through Shelbyville, stopped to buy some plants. Another day, it was a customer from Arizona.

Mrs. Turney smiled. "You never know how many delightful friendships an African violet will make for you."

About this time Dr. Turney joined us. When we marveled at the numerous plants filling the windows of their living room, the doctor said, "Oh, she has them like this all over the house, upstairs and down. Just how many plants have you, Nelle?"

Mrs. Turney had counted her plants that morning. She said there were exactly 969. That count, she explained, did not include the small plants in the propagation boxes. Then she added hastily, "I forgot. I sold two this morning so now I have only 967; and there are 96 varieties in the collection."

We told her she must be a flower-pot salesman's delight. "Oh, yes," chimed in the doctor. "She buys flower-pots by the case."

With Mrs. Turney and the African violet it was a case of love at first sight. While on a visit to the state capitol several years ago, she saw for the first time some of these lovely plants. Before leaving, one of them was hers. By the time she reached home her enthusiasm had increased to such an extent that she ordered twenty dollars worth of leaves. And in all that lot only one leaf was a casualty.

The Turneys are great flower lovers. They have a beautiful outdoor garden and Mrs. Turney is now bringing bits of it into the house to add a touch of contrast to the violets. She showed us some interesting pictures she had made of pressed flowers. One picture was made of white statice on a rose background; another was yellow and orchid mums with dragonhead on a black background; still another was fern leaves combined with snow-on-the-mountain. All were in antique frames. Later, she plans to make a tray decoration of fern and smartweed.

But when Mrs. Turney turned toward the window she said, "There is nothing that takes the place of the African violets."

UNINVITED GUESTS

Like SAINTPAULIAS Too

Mrs. Leon A. Bardo of Lowville, Lewis County, New York, reports that she does not have room for her young plants in the lower part of her house, so keeps them in a guest room on the second floor.

Recently Mrs. Bardo carefully placed twenty-five plants in individual pots and carried them to the guest chamber, and from day to day watched them thrive and grow. One morning early she went into the room to inquire as to the comfort of her "guests" and to inquire if they would like a little more air, light, or possibly a drink of water. Alas and alack! Something had happened to her guests during the night! She was amazed to find that some had been chewed, others completely eaten, some pulled completely out of the soil, while others had small holes dug around them. Who or what could have treated her guests in such an inhospitable fashion? Why had she not heard this intruder? Why had he molested her guests - who had never harmed anyone? Could it have been an "inside" job? There was only one way to find out. Yes, a trap was set and the thief caught, and it was not necessary to call in Sherlock Holmes. A hungry mouse had demonstrated that he too liked Saintpaulias.

P.S. This same incident occurred a second time. Could it be that this inherent love for these plants was handed down from father to son or from mother to daughter?

ORIGIN OF VIOLETS

I know, blue modest violets,
Gleaming with dew at morn--
I know the place you come from,
And the way that you were born!

When God cut holes in Heaven,
The holes the stars look thru,
He let the scraps fall down to earth--
The little scraps are you.

--Author unknown

Sent in by Evelyn B. Whitson who has had it in her poem collection for many years.

OPEN - - -

the door RICHARD ! !

Daisy Jones, Tenn.

In unison, we speak these very words to you today, Richard, since you have been awarded the research fellowship on Saintpaulias recently given by the African Violet Society of America, Inc. We hope that your year of research will bring to light many interesting things about African violets, their habits of growth, their likes and dislikes.

Every true lover of African violets will be interested to know about the background that Mr. Stinson has for this kind of work.

Richard F. Stinson was born in Cleveland, Ohio, February 4, 1921. He received a B. S. degree from the Ohio State University in 1943. He entered active duty in the Naval Reserve in 1943, received an Ensign's commission in the same year, two years were spent on a mine sweeper in the Pacific. He was promoted to lieutenant junior grade in 1944, and was placed on inactive duty in 1946.

Mr. Stinson then returned to Ohio State University in 1946 and left with a M. S. degree in 1947. He then taught one year at New York State Agricultural and Technical Institute at Alfred, N. Y. In 1948, he accepted the position of Assistant Professor of Floriculture at the University of Connecticut, Storrs, Conn. Here he was engaged in teaching and research and is now on a one year leave of absence from that institution to complete part of the requirements for the degree of doctor of philosophy.

We feel sure that the African Violet Fellowship may mean wonderful things in the development of these popular indoor plants. Mr. Stinson has the best wishes of all of the National African Violet club members.

Progress Report on the Research Work with Saintpaulias

December, 1950

RICHARD STINSON, OHIO

The following six experiments are now in progress at the Ohio State University:

1. The effects of various light intensities upon flower bud formation (initiation) and development.
2. The effect of several temperatures upon growth and flower development.
3. The effect of artificial light upon plant growth and flower development.
4. The effect of varying nutrition, organic and inorganic sources of nitrogen, and soil pH upon the growth and flowering of Saintpaulia.
5. The effect of various soil mixtures upon the growth and flowering of Saintpaulia.
6. A comparison of growth and flowering in constant level and hand watering methods.

Most of these experiments were begun in mid-September and the slight differences that have been observed so far are not considered conclusive. However, some details of how these experiments have been set up may be of interest.

Experiment 1. The effect of various light intensities upon flower bud initiation and development.

Seven cloth-covered boxes with the following maximum light intensities in foot-candles are being used: 100, 300, 500, 700, 900, 1100, 1300. Plant samples of the variety Mentor Boy are being taken weekly for microscopical examination to determine the maximum light intensity under which flower buds are initiated and developed. Four other varieties that are being grown for visual comparison in this test are: Pink Girl, Redhead Girl, White Lady, and Amethyst Amazon. It is hoped that this experiment will determine the favorable and unfavorable light conditions for flower bud initiation and development.

Experiment 2. The effect of several temperatures upon growth and flower development.

This experiment is designed to determine the response of this plant when grown at temperatures above those used in commercial production. In this experiment three boxes enclosed with a clear plastic cloth are being used. Two are equipped with automatic heating cables and ventilating devices to maintain constant temperatures within. One of these boxes is being maintained at 80° F. and the other box at 70° F. The third box is under the usual greenhouse conditions (60° F. night temperature). The varieties being grown in each treatment are Mentor Boy, Pink Girl, Redhead Girl, White Lady, and Amethyst Amazon.

Experiment 3. The effect of artificial light upon growth and flower development.

Numerous amateurs have reported favorably in attempts to grow this plant under artificial light. This experiment is designed to repeat their experiments under more exactly known conditions. This experiment is being conducted in the basement of a building near the University Greenhouses, where there is no sunlight, at a temperature of 65° F. The varieties being used in each treatment are Mentor Boy, Pink Girl, Redhead Girl, White Lady, and Amethyst Amazon. Forty watt fluorescent tubes are being used in all treatments except one where 100 watt incandescent lamps are being used. The treatments are as follows:

Daylight tubes	100 foot-candles
Daylight tubes	200 foot-candles
Daylight tubes	300 foot-candles
White tubes	300 foot-candles
Blue tubes	300 foot-candles
Gold tubes	300 foot-candles
Incandescent lamps	300 foot-candles

Experiment 4. The effect of varying nutrition, organic and inorganic sources of nitrogen, and soil pH upon the growth and flowering of Saintpaulia.

The purpose of this experiment is to determine the optimum nutrient levels for this plant and to compare the effects of organic and inorganic sources of nitrogen upon the growth of this plant. The variety Mentor Boy is being grown under nutrient conditions shown in the following table:

Soil pH	Nitrate level in parts per million	Potash level in parts per million	Calcium level in parts per million	Object of Test
6.5	5-10	20	150	Optimum nitrate level using blood (organic) nitrogen
6.5	10-25	20	150	
6.5	25-50	20	150	
6.5	5-10	20	150	Optimum nitrate level using ammonium sulfate (inorganic) nitrogen
6.5	10-25	20	150	
6.5	25-50	20	150	
6.5	10-25	5-10	150	Optimum potash level using potassium chloride with inorganic nitrogen
6.5	10-25	10-20	150	
6.5	10-25	20-40	150	
6.5	10-25	20	40-100	Optimum calcium level using calcium sulfate (gypsum) with inorganic nitrogen
6.5	10-25	20	100-150	
6.5	10-25	20	150+	
4.5	10-25	20	150	Optimum pH value with inorganic nitrogen at pH 6.5 as check
5.5	10-25	20	150	
7.5	10-25	20	150	

Experiment 5. The effect of various soil mixtures upon the growth and flowering of Saintpaulia.

The variety Mentor Boy is being grown in the following soil mixtures to determine which is best:

silt only
1 part silt, 1 sand
1 part silt, 1 well rotted manure
1 part silt, 1 leafmold
1 part silt, 1 Vitaloam (a black muck)
1 part silt, 1 Moats (decomposed cotton waste)
1 part silt, 1 sand, 2 well rotted manure
1 part silt, 1 sand, 2 leafmold
1 part silt, 1 sand, 2 Vitaloam
1 part silt, 1 sand, 2 Moats

Experiment 6. A comparison of growth and flowering in constant level and hand watering methods.

It has been claimed that Saintpaulia plants mature most rapidly when grown by the constant level method. This experiment has been set up to compare quality and speed of maturity under the two systems. There are two plots in this experiment. In one plot, a water level is continuously maintained at a certain place in sand upon which pots of Saintpaulia have been placed. Another plot of similar plants is being watered overhead by hand in the usual way. The varieties in these treatments are: Mentor Boy, Pink Girl, Redhead Girl, Amethyst Amazon, and White Lady.

Suggestions for Organization of a Local Society

Bess Hardy, Dayton, Ohio

HOW TO PROCEED

1. Discuss organizing a Society with those of similar interest in the African violet or saintpaulia. Explain the many desirable advantages which are offered by the national organization, and the real value to be gained from a local Society.

2. Distribute the small leaflets issued by African Violet Society of America, Inc. and let those interested examine a few copies of the quarterly publication.

3. Emphasize the advantages of the contacts offered by such group activities.

4. Explain benefits offered by the African Violet Society of America, Inc. Those with similar interests can work together harmoniously for the advancement of the African violet. Ask for the following:

A. Information folders.

B. Sample copies of the African Violet Magazine.

C. Applications for membership.

1. These will be furnished free on request to

African Violet Magazine, P. O. Box 1326, Knoxville, Tenn.

5. Decide upon a date and place for first meeting.

6. Publicity is important. Get as much as possible.

A. Send out personal invitations

1. Letters or cards giving purpose, date, and place of meeting to all individuals interested in organizing a local society.

B. Contact local newspapers

1. They will be glad to assist with suitable notices and other write-ups.

C. Radio Stations

1. Garden programs will be cooperative in promoting your projects. They will give spot announcements or special features, if no garden program is scheduled.

7. Meeting place

A. Most new Societies hold their first meetings in private homes.

B. Later a regular meeting place may be secured.

C. A hall or public meeting place is best, if a large group is desired or anticipated.

MEETINGS

1. Contacts are essential

A. Nurserymen or horticultural departments from local schools and universities can furnish speakers for your meetings. Other African violet societies in vicinity which have already been organized will be willing to cooperate in building good programs.

B. Initial meeting should be attractive

1. Each meeting can be interesting, instructive and worthwhile.

C. Plant sales may be held to earn money to cover expenses of meetings or some special project —

1. Plants may be either purchased or donated by those attending.

2. Plants may be given as door prizes to stimulate interest.

D. A guest book is handy

1. It registers those attending initial meeting.

2. It is helpful in making contacts for future announcements.

E. Refreshments

1. These are optional and subject to wishes of the hostess.

2. They afford a good opportunity to mix, become better acquainted, and provide an opportunity to discuss your "pet violets" and other garden topics or problems.

FIRST MEETING

1. Select a temporary Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer among those present.

2. Organizer will explain

A. Purpose of meeting.

B. Benefits to be derived by forming a Society.

C. It will be desirable to relate a short history of the National Society and function of its many departments or resources.

3. Appoint a committee to draw up a constitution and by-laws for local Society

A. Sample copies of National Society constitution are available for study

1. It is suggested that this sample copy be followed as closely as possible.
2. There are many benefits from such a document.
3. Amendments may be added later to cover any necessary changes.

SECOND MEETING

1. Decide upon name for the Society.
2. Determine time and place for second meeting.
3. Appoint nominating committee.
4. Constitution and by-laws may be adopted.
5. Committees may be appointed.
6. Introduce speakers

A. Extend every courtesy to your speaker (whether paid or guest). Friendliness and hospitality are essential to success of future meetings.

B. Follow up meetings with a letter of thanks or appreciation from your secretary to the speaker.

7. Arrange for plant sale.
8. Adjourn meeting.
9. Draw door prize.
10. Serve refreshments

A. Informality of social hour is enjoyed by many people.

FUTURE MEETING

1. All members joining during first three meetings will be considered charter members.
2. Collect dues and issue receipts.
3. Call for reports.
4. Elect officers.
5. Arrange for main feature for following meeting.
6. Make announcements.
7. Carry out program as planned for this meeting.
8. Adjourn.
9. Draw door prize.
10. Serve refreshments

A. A friendly cup of tea can bring members closer together and make better relationships.

LIST OF COMMITTEES FOR A LOCAL SOCIETY

REGISTRATION: Keeps record book for registration of members and guests attending each meeting.

RECEPTION: Welcomes visitors and new members. Arranges introductions.

PROGRAM: Secures speakers, welcomes speakers, introduces them to the group.

DOOR PRIZE: Secures specimen plants for door prizes, sells tickets, conducts drawing for prizes.

MEMBERSHIP: Seeks new members.

TELEPHONE: Notifies members of meeting by card or telephone.

GOOD CHEER: Sends cards or flowers to members in case of illness.

HISTORIAN: Records important activities. Keeps scrapbook of all news items, pictures, etc., of Society.

REFRESHMENT: Serves refreshments.

LIBRARIAN: Keeps books and pamphlets for loan to members. Keeps accurate record of those loaned.

PUBLICITY: Reports to newspaper of activities of Society.

OTHERS:

REGULAR MEETING

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Call meeting to order.
2. Minutes of previous meeting for approval.
3. Communications.
4. Introduction of guests.
5. Report of committees.
6. Unfinished business.
7. New business.
8. Speakers or entertainment.
9. Displays, plant sale, refreshments.

SAMPLE ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETING

Westwood African Violet Society meets Tuesday Afternoon at 1:30 P.M.

HI-Grade Activity Center

Address - 3300 W. 3rd St., Dayton, Ohio

Speaker: Mrs. Arthur Radtke

Topic: "Film on African Violets"

Refreshments

_____

Secretary

H. G. Harvey, Program Chairman

THE PROGRAM

The program is luscious. We start off with a bang Thursday afternoon with a talk on "The Questions They Ask Me" by Professor Victor H. Ries, Extension Floriculturist of the Ohio State University. Professor Ries has been traveling the state of Ohio for a number of years, telling Ohioans how to grow flowers, and his answers have been tried in the fires of practical experience. He not only knows how to raise the flowers, but he has learned how to tell other people how to do it.

Mr. Ries is devoting his full time to healthy violets. He does not have to cut his discussion short to cover diseases. To cover the "Sick Violet" subject, two outstanding national authorities have consented to talk to us. Thursday evening, Dr. Freeman Weiss covers the subject "Root and Crown Rots and Other Fungous Diseases of African Violets." Dr. Weiss is not only one of the outstanding authorities of the United States on fungous plant diseases, but he is also an African violet amateur, so he approaches our fungous problems with authority and sympathy. On insect troubles, we have Dr. Floyd F. Smith, a Senior Pathologist of the United States Department of Agriculture. Dr. Smith's word carries great weight in any discussion of insect attacks on plants, and he can tell us more than any one else we could obtain about mealy bug, cyclamen mite and the other vexatious insect intruders that plague us.

These three talks, one on healthy violets and two on sick violets are a whole convention in themselves, but the lagniappe in as much or more. We have an opportunity to listen to five of the leading commercial growers of African violets in the United States talk among themselves about "Practical Methods of Cultivation and Shipping." Imagine sitting in on a conversation on this subject between Henry Peterson, Dale Ulery, Ruth Yoars, William Merkel, and Paul Rockelmann. That is what we are going to do Friday morning.

Friday night, Evan Roberts talks about the "Saintpaulia Species," giving us an over all picture of where this African violet business started, with the potentialities for its further development. Following him, we show a group of Kodachromes contributed by the leading hybridizers all over the country assembled under the title "What's New in Varieties," with Alma Wright as the narrator. So, before our eyes we have, in one meeting, the Alpha and the Omega (so far) of the entire African violet development. And both the Alpha and the Omega are presented by persons abundantly worth going a long way to listen to.

Saturday, Montague Free, Staff Horticulturist of The Home Garden Magazine and author of numerous garden books which practically all of us have read and enjoyed, rambles in his own inimitable way within the confines of the subject "A Horticulturist Looks at the Saintpaulia." Following him, Mr. Richard F. Stinson, who is the present holder of our African Violet Fellowship at the Ohio State University tells us "What We Don't Know About African Violets," and what he and the University are doing about it.

Then, finally, Saturday noon, Boyce M. Edens, one of our two Honorary Life Members, puts the cap sheaf on the convention and epitomizes the objectives of the Society, past present and future, in the valedictory talk of the convention; "Where Do We Go From Here?"

An Invitation to Dayton . . .

Nelle Berst, Convention Chairman

The advance planning which has been done on this 1951 National Convention is such as to permit me to assure all members that it will be the biggest and best ever held by the Society.

From the time the Convention opens, at 9:00 A.M., on Thursday, April 26, until you depart for home, you will find that every minute of this meeting has been planned with you in mind.

Our program has been carefully prepared with much thought and research, and we are happy to say that we were able to secure some of the most able speakers in the country, who will present their subject in a manner that will prove both instructive and entertaining. We have also given consideration to the time between sessions, so that you may have ample time to view the displays, of which there will be many, and which will include — rare and new specimens, many of which have never been exhibited before any group. Plenty of time will also be allowed for side trips, and sightseeing around the city.

I would like at this point to remind you that Dayton has much to offer its visitors in the way of variety. Whether your interests be centered in Art, History, Culture, Education, Industry, or Recreation, you are sure to find much to claim your attention.

We would like to suggest for your guidance some points of interest that should be included in your sightseeing trip around our city.

AVIATION - - - Dayton, the home of the Wright Brothers, inventors of the Airplane, has become the world mecca for those interested in aeronautical research, and the Air Material Command, located at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, is the center of all Air Force procurement. Patterson Field is one of the largest flying fields in the world. The Dayton Municipal Airport, city owned, covers a tract of over 1,000 acres, and is located just 9 miles from the city, The original home of the Wright Brothers may be seen, as well as the home of the late Orville Wright.

SCHOOLS - - - The University of Dayton, an accredited university, is generally recognized as one of the best, and has an enrollment of students from all parts of the world. Bonbrake Seminary, a theological seminary, one of the largest, has always been of interest to visitors.

CULTURE - - - The Dayton Art Institute, one of the finest to be seen anywhere, offers something different and original in design and architecture. Being located on an elevated plot of ground overlooking the Miami River, and the downtown section of the city, it is the home of many fine paintings, sculpture, and hundreds of collectors items, gathered from all parts of the world. Open daily.

CULTURE - - - Dayton's "Old Courthouse," which is more than 100 years old, has been preserved because of its very rare and unusual design and architecture, and for years has claimed the attention of people all over the United States. Deeds Carilon Tower, located in a beautiful setting, offers daily concerts portraying the best in music. Our Public Library with its Museum of Natural History has much in store for the visitor.

ENTERTAINMENT & RECREATION - - - Our theatres and hotels, located in the downtown shopping district, offer the very latest and best in entertainment, and for those interested in indoor or outdoor sports — golf courses and bowling alleys are located not far away.

These are some of the many interesting things you will find waiting for you when you arrive in Dayton. If you have any seedlings you would like to display, please see that they are forwarded, or bring them with you. We feel that our registration fee is nominal, and in keeping with current prices.

In conclusion I would like to remind you that you will find included in the literature you will receive, a hotel registration card. It is very important that you return this card to the hotel promptly, so that proper record and confirmation can be made. There will be ample hotel accomodations for all, but prompt advance registration will assure you of the accomodations you desire.

So until I have the pleasure of meeting you at the Convention, may I extend to you our most sincere welcome to Dayton, Ohio.

REGISTRATION REPORT . . .

NEIL C. MILLER

As was recognized to be inevitable from the start of Registration, the time was bound to come when most of the applications for registration would be for new varieties, still retained only in the originator's hands or having had only a very limited regional distribution. Under these conditions the amount of adverse opinion that could be expressed concerning newness or superiority of a variety on which registration was sought would be small. Such a status has apparently been reached, no opinions or objections have so far been received concerning any of the varieties published in the September or December, 1950, issues.

It can not be too strongly emphasized that the success of the registration plan as set up will depend largely on the extent to which people who are familiar with an applied-for variety express their opinion as to whether it is or it not different from other varieties or is an improvement over existing varieties.

So, if you are familiar, either by growing the plant or by having observed it, with any of the varieties published in this Report or in any of the preceding reports, won't you please drop us a line and let us have your opinion of it? Communications should be mailed to Chairman of Committee on Registration, Mr. Neil C. Miller, Layton's Lake, Penns Grove, N. J.

PART I.

The following applications for registration were received in the period Oct. 1, 1950, to Jan. 1, 1951:

Blue Lady 9-18-50	Mrs. Edith B. Hendrix, 2521 Howland Drive, Temple City, Cal.
Spoon Girl 9-18-50	Mrs. Edith B. Hendrix, 2521 Howland Drive, Temple City, Cal.
Ranee 9-18-50	Mrs. Edith B. Hendrix, 2521 Howland Drive, Temple City, Cal.
Gay Lark 9-20-50	Mrs. Preston Everett, R. D. 1, Box 378, New Kensington, Pa.
Soldier Boy 2-29-50	Mrs. Iva Montondo, R. D. 1, Mannsville, N. Y.
Radiant Shantilly 10-1-50	Mrs. P. H. Scully, 510 Kearney St., Laramie, Wyoming
Mrs. Emery 11-8-50	Mrs. A. B. Cooper, 4208 Decoursey, Covington, Ky.
Darling 11-25-50	Mrs. R. L. Welton, Meridian, Kansas
Salem Maiden 11-27-50	Mrs. Jessie M. Lewis, 323 Morrison Avenue, Council Bluffs, Iowa
Lavender Afterglow 12-4-50	Miss Florence Ellevia Yocum R. F. D. 1, Muncy, Pa.
Beverly 12-9-50	Mrs. Evalyn E. Hall, 1865 7th Avenue, Sacramento 18, Cal.
Bonita 12-9-50	Mrs. Evalyn E. Hall, 1865 7th Avenue, Sacramento 18, Cal.
Joel's Delight 12-19-50	Mrs. Ted Hanusa, 34 Orchard Avenue, Salem, N. J.
Dorlene 12-28-50	Mrs. Genevieve Marsh, 4074 Bluff Place, San Pedro, Cal.
My Love 12-30-50	Mrs. E. J. Housen, 217 8th St., Baraboo, Wisc.
Nyla Jean 12-29-50	Mrs. E. J. Housen, 217 8th St., Baraboo, Wisc.
Purple Shadows 12-29-50	Mrs. E. J. Housen, 217 8th St., Baraboo, Wisc.

PART II.

The following four applications have also been received. Some question as to registerability appears for each one, but there seems to be no good reason for withholding publication while these questions are run down, so they are being published so Society membership may have an opportunity to express its opinion concerning them.

In each of these applications, the point at question is the name. And, with one exception, the question involves not these plants, but the right of some other previously named plant to carry one of these names or some slight variation as an, apparently, regional alternate name. If the previous applications of these names cannot be properly cleared it may become necessary to refuse registration to these names.

Diane	Mrs. Clarence C. Anderson, 2459 Larimore Avenue, Omaha 11, Nebr.
White Orchid	Mrs. Vernon R. Gould, Box 128, Greene, N. Y.
Lois	Mrs. O. C. Williamson, Box 268A, Route 9, Charlotte, N. C.
Pink Lace	Mrs. Frank Vernon, 3912 Trimble Road, Nashville, Tenn.

WHAT OF THE FUTURE?

BOYCE M. EDENS, GA.

This question is uppermost in the minds of everybody in African Violetdom, including old timers like me. What about the future of our favorite houseplant, the African violet (saintpaulia)? "Tell us in definite, concrete terms," they are saying, "whether the present well-known varieties are about all that we can expect?" Or, "Are there numbers of new ones for us in the offing?"

These questions can now be answered in no uncertain terms. You just haven't seen anything yet! Just wait until you pop your violet-hungry eyes on some of the new ones that are being tested and groomed by the experts behind the scenes. I have seen many of these new ones and I think they are really magnificent, and it is time to pull the curtain of uncertainty aside for a glimpse of a few of the greatly improved ones that you can have for your very own later on. I say a few, because to describe them all in full detail would fill an extra issue of the Magazine and then some.

Last Fall, I journeyed to East Lansing, Michigan, to attend the Fifth Congress of American Horticulture that was meeting at Michigan State College, and to represent the Society at this meeting where the standardization of colors and the establishment of a practical, usable color chart were being considered. After the meeting, I decided to do a little African violet sightseeing en route home, so I stopped off to see the Ulery Greenhouses in Springfield, Ohio.

As I walked up and down between the benches with Dale Ulery, I was amazed by the many different color tones and tints of the new creations among the African violets that he has produced by hybridization during the past six years. There were new and distinctive doubles and singles in solid colors, pastels, bi-colors, stripes, dotted ones, etc. Here, spread out before me in richest array were literally dozens of new and different hybrids, none of which I had seen before. Yes, they are new, and they are different in many ways from those older varieties with which we are already familiar.

For the purpose of briefly describing many of these hybrids, most of them rather naturally fall into three categories. (1) Those with Blue Girl or 'Girl' type of foliage, ranging in color from medium dark-bronze green leaves that have rosy colored undersides, to light green on both sides. (2) Those with round and heart-shaped foliage of the Dupont or quilted type. (3) Those with a somewhat smooth, oval or ovate foliage, with leaves that range from light green on both sides to dark green with rosy colored undersides.

In the first category there are a number of different types of bloom with pure white background striped with various shades of blue and violet, and also some whose bloom is edged with shades of blue and violet. Some are extremely light blue pastel blends that range from the lightest blue to pure crystalline white, such as the variety White Girl. These new 'Girl' types are especially beautiful and attractive.

In the second category are a number of improved types of solid medium and light blue and violet shades that are also especially appealing. Exceptionally fine is a bi-color with real light lavender-pink lower petals set off with rather dark red-violet upper petals. There is also a rather distinctive type with blooms of light lavender-pink background that are splashed, striped and otherwise marked with darker lavender-pink . . . no two blooms appeared to be marked alike. I think that these new splashed types, such as the variety Fantasy, should be typed as amoenas.

The third category contains numerous new and improved types, both doubles and singles, almost too numerous to mention. Especially noteworthy in this category are many fine doubles. A number of these doubles have bloom with a nearly pure white background, and others have a pure white background mingled with light blue, and still others have light blue and medium light blue centers or eyes. The arrangement, or design of the blue centers or eyes, seems to differ somewhat. Then, there are several doubles with medium light lavender-pink markings off center, and still others with edging of light and medium light lavender pink. Then, there are still others that have light blue and medium light blue and orchid backgrounds without markings.

The singles in this third category are certainly not to be overlooked. An outstanding new one is an excellent dark-complected true pink. It has dark green leaves with rosy undersides, and its bloom comes nearer being a true medium dark pink than any I have seen heretofore. It is unlike the well-known Pink Beauty and I think it can be freely predicted that it will be popular with all lovers of pink varieties of African violets.

It is reasonable to expect that so experienced and discriminating hybridist of

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The Homing Pigeon

(By action of the Board of Directors, new members joining the Homing Pigeon after July 31, 1949, must be members of the National Society.)

VACATION TIPS

Here are a couple of vacation tips for taking care of your African violets: (1) Fold newspapers in the bathtub to a depth of about 6 inches. Let the water run until they are thoroughly saturated. Set the plants on top of papers. After a month the plants looked better than before. (2) Place bricks in tub, fill the tub to top of bricks with water-set plants on bricks.

Mrs. Pearl Spink, Calif., Unit 104

I'm all for cutting down cost of operations, so maybe you will be interested in a simple and very cheap way of getting the same effect as wick watering which I use on a few of my plants with success. I use burlap strings such as come tied on potato sacks and the like. I insert a piece in bottom of violet pot, setting this in another container holding water, allowing the end to fall into the water and, presto! - my plant gets its water supply and does fine.

Florence Allen, Ohio, Unit 43

A BIT OF THIS AND THAT

I have found that if you rinse your milk bottles and throw the water away you are wasting a good bit of food that would be good for African violets. So when the bottle is empty, fill it with very warm water, this will look cloudy, and use it to water your violets. It is

VIOLET BERRY

Homing Pigeon

News Editor

It is with regret that we say goodbye to Violet Berry as the Pigeon News Editor. She has served faithfully and efficiently, and to her go our earnest thanks for the service she has so willingly rendered during the past year. The Pigeon News column has been a veritable store house of interesting and helpful information for all to read and learn from.

Helen Pochurek, 14225 McCracken Rd., Cleveland 5, Ohio is your new News Editor. Welcome Helen! ! It is a pleasure to have you as a member of the magazine staff.

— Editor

especially good for seedlings. The milk solution helps to combat fungus or damping off. This is proven and not just an experiment. I have also found that the African violet likes sitting on moist sand very much. This also facilitates easier watering and less often.

Mrs. M. Eckhardt, Md., Unit 111

I find a Holmspray, throat and nasal atomizer, ideal for my plants. The long slender nozzle gets in the tiniest crowns, and gives a complete and gentle spray.

Dorothy Hamblin, N. J.

Neptunes Rex sprouted from a leaf of Ionantha Grandiflora and was one of five sports, three were very dark Amethyst type leaves and purple blossoms. Neptunes Rex is a very profuse bloomer -- very similar to Neptune Supreme. If you are interested in red backs to the leaves -- try this: filter the light thru Celloglass and wax paper, the light MUST be strong but NOT hot. What happens to light under these conditions, I don't know, but it works.

Adelaide Aldridge, Calif., Unit 5

I notice a recommendation of fertilizer ONLY ONCE a month, and by others in rotation of weeks. If we consider Nature, it does not feed this way, so I prefer to use a weak fertilizer every watering as long as growth and flowering are good. If flowering stops, then no food at all and heavy top watering with no water standing in dish. If it still balks, unpot it, wash away soil and repot deeper, cut-

ting off old outer leaves. When a very young leaf develops -- its cells are laid down in adaptation to the light. It is too late later on for it to change. Hence a plant shifted into stronger light suffers as to its present leaves, but as new leaves come on they tolerate the greater light well. Lesson is to keep growing plants in good light even before they are large enough to flower.

Roswell Johnson, Calif., Unit 17

I've learned to spoon the soil mixture around the newly potted plant lightly, and never, never press it down. I wash the dirt in around the roots by slowly pouring warm water around the sides of the pot. Then leave the pot sitting in warm water for about an hour before taking it out to drain. I set the newly potted plant away from the brighest light for a few days -- and gradually get it back in its old place. These methods may not be according to the experts, but my violets do grow and bloom!

Irene Russell, N. C., Unit 46

A new hint I heard the other day was to wrap the end of a leaf cutting loosely with a small bit of cotton and then plant. This supposedly holds the moisture and favors quicker rooting. You try it and report on it.

Pigeon Ed.

And here is something I do -- winter and summer. At sunshiny windows, I keep ordinary window screening over the outside of the windows, whether I open the window or not. This cuts the hot sun rays and leaves and blooms will not become sunburned.

Pigeon Ed.

I use wax containers that cottage cheese comes in to plant special leaves and suckers that have no roots which I want to grow. I fill it about half full with either vermiculite or equal parts of peat moss and vermiculite. These containers protect the leaf without damaging it. Also I am using "Glass Cloth" to cover my flats instead of a glass. No breakage and as far as I can see it is just as good for plants.

Mrs. M. H. McMahon, Ohio, Unit 24

I soak all new clay pots for eight hours before using. I also dampen potting soil until a handful will ball up and crumble apart at a touch. I use Frosty bar sticks for labels and always put repotting date on it.

Mrs. Wm. E. May, Tenn., Unit 24

I dip all tops of new clay pots in ½ inch melted paraffin to prevent petiole rot. Mrs. C. B. Redmon, Ill., Unit 24

GLADYS CANNER

Homing Pigeon

Membership Manager

If you wish to join a group, or if you wish to withdraw from one, please communicate with Mrs. Canner.

I use lime water for black flies. One teaspoon to one quart of hot water. Water with as hot water as possible. Flies disappear in no time.

Mrs. Benjamin Ostalski, N. Y., Unit 24

To keep the names of leaves that are rooting in water, tie loosely a small piece of a different color of string or thread on each variety at the base of the leaf and then draw the end up over the leaf. Write with wax pencil the name of the leaf and the color of the string on a label and paste on the container. When the leaf is transferred to the terrarium, write it on that label.

Cora P. Schultz, Pa., Director of Unit 24

I am teaching school, have a third and fourth grade combination of 21 pupils. It is a nice group of children. Of course we are growing violets in our room. I carried a leaf for each child. They brought little glasses and waxed paper to cover the glasses, so we put the leaves in water and then talked about where the African violet was first found and how it got to this country. The children enjoyed studying the globe of the world and finding South Africa. When the roots and little plants began to come up, we had a science lesson on our little plants, which they could examine through the glasses. We have painted flower pots and they are all dry and ready to use. Now we are preparing our soil. Each child has brought a bag of rich soil. We got some sharp sand from the school yard and I have carried them a bag of terra-lite and a pot of bone-meal to add to the mixture. Next week we will bake the soil in one of the school ovens. Each child has already gathered small pebbles to put in his flower pot for good drainage. We had a good lesson on "fractions" when we prepared our violet soil -- so you see, I am getting in some practical teaching as well as having fun with our African Violet Project. The children are becoming Afri-

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THE GRAPEVINE

(Strictly from the Rumor Dept. — Editor)

R. E. Memberthis

Mrs. St. John was interrupted in her potting of the five babies from the leaf of McFarland's Blue Warrior by a knock at the front door.

" I hear you have Blue Eyes Supreme."

"Mrs. Chatterton. Nice to have you back. Yes, I have the Blue Eyes Supreme. Saw it at the convention and just had to have it. Frank and Anne were so sweet to let me have such a lovely specimen. Of course, I simply had to put down a few leaves as soon as I got home with it. Doesn't do the commercials any good I know for all of us little people to be raising their pet plants but then I cannot afford such an expensive hobby and it has to pay its way. So - - - Won't you come in?"

Mrs. Chatterton did, and after a time raved about the Blue Eyes Supreme but was disappointed with the babies as they were "so small." However, she selected one after five minutes haggling - during which Mrs. St. John would not bulge from her first-asked-price of fifty-cents. There then followed two hours of drooling, condemning all the Orchid Beauties under its various names, several acquaintances who were "outrageous with their prices" or "secretive about where they received this and that." Then Mrs. Chatterton took her leave with "I don't know why I come back here. Everything I ever got from you died for me."

Several weeks later Mrs. Chatterton's Pigeon arrived, and after an hour's reading, she took up her pen and a ream of paper to add her letter.

Dear Pigeonites:

This was followed by half a page as to why she was not able to get to the Pigeon when it arrived - ignoring completely the fact that it had been dropped into her letter slot only an hour ago and not four days ago as she hinted. Then:-

"I was so sorry, Anne, to hear about your fallen arches and broken leg.

Mary:- Sorry to hear about the death of your father. My sympathies, and all that. But God takes whom God loves.

Sallie:- It must be nice to have a Cocker Spaniel with eight pups. Lucky you. Think of all the money you will make on them.

I simply must tell you about a plant of Blue Eyes Supreme that I bought recently from Mrs. St. John. It died. I don't know why, but everything I buy from her dies in a week or two."

Four pages later Mrs. Chatterton ended her letter for the Pigeon with this remark - "Sorry I do not have time to comment on the 'Topic for Discussion' " and signed it "Violetly yours - Ima Chatterton."

Ada Mae Story next received the Pigeon and in the course of writing her letter mentioned the fact that she had received the loveliest "Rose from Tennessee" and added, "I don't know what it is, as it arrived as a gift with an order I had placed. The leaves are a lovely dark green and so shiny. One of the most beautiful things in my collection of 273 varieties. Does any one know where I can find Alma's Blue? I simply must have it. Lotta Lipp told me about it in Pigeon No. 375 and said that it 'was out of this world'."

"Do you suppose that Mrs. St. John could have nematodes? They are perfectly awful, I understand. A friend of mine got them from the Haywire Greenhouse, or was it cyclamen mite? Anyway, she lost her entire collection." (The fact that a "friend" had been where there was a case of cyclamen mite and after "pawing" the entire collection had returned and petted her own plants, had nothing to do with the matter.) "One never gets rid of them and they still show up generations and generations later - even from leaf cuttings. If this is the case, your entire collection is probably in danger."

Next on the list to receive the Pigeon was Ernest Blowhard who happened to have his Pigeon No. 300 in at the same time - so - while writing his letter for "323", just happened to mention:-

"Did you know that Mrs. St. John had nematodes in her collection and that she passed them out, clean across the country? Poor Ima Chatterton lost her entire collection because of one plant that she bought there. There simply should be a law against all

these 'would be commercials' from selling plants hither and yon. By the way I have quite a supply of my own Blowhard's Un-known, in case any of you are interested. The plant originally came from Podunk, but no one seems to know what it is so I call it 'Un-known'. It really is beautiful. Just like Commodore - only different. I wonder what Ada Mae Story's Rose of Tennessee can be?"

One could go on with the minute, devilish and devious route and developments that finally brought about the conclusion of this narrative . . . One cou'd point out the evil of suggestion; the unconscious misconstruing of ideas; the association of similar happenings; the petty jealousies - real, or imagined - that went into the prompting of this tale. However, all this is unnecessary, for the conclusion speaks for itself. One careless misspelling of a word creates a new saintpaulia variety; one careless word ruins a conscientious and meticulous commercial.

The conclusions, as afore-said, speak for themselves. The lady in Tennessee, with a house full of Plum Satins, made a fortune selling leaves of Tennessee Rose at seventy-five cents apiece and small plants at $2.00 each. Only to retire and spend her old age raising Camellias. The recipients of her sales in later years found chagrin in the fact that they have had Tennessee Rose for a long time under the simple name of Plum Satin, or Mauve, or half a dozen other names. They, in turn, blamed the lady from Tennessee and never realized that it was their own insistant demands that made them prey to hoaxes and seemingly down-right deceit.

Mrs. St. John wondered why she did not sell a plant for months and, because of her weakness to put down a leaf, found her house over-burdened with more plants than she could care for - or enjoy. Out of desperation she placed an ad in the African Violet Magazine; in reply to which she received three inquiries "Have you gotten rid of your nematodes?" Her own Pigeon upon one of its flights six months later contained nine letters of advice on "How to get rid of nematodes." In desperation, she finally resorted to selling the prime of her blooming collection to a group of local florists for fifty cents apiece. The florists, in turn, sold the plants, receiving as recompense $2.50 to $3.00 and never a single complaint as to the health of any of them.

The fact that Mrs. Chatterton "had to" repot all of her new purchases into her own soil mixture - composed strictly of worm castings, rare cow manure, peat moss and quantities of 5-10-5 commercial fertilizer, had nothing what-so-ever to do with the subject. Mrs. Chatterton, when she lost thirty of her own plants - in the same mixture - undoubtedly placed the blame on "Root-rot" and not nematodes. The fact that her own private "mixture" was too "hot" and too rich was entirely a different matter!

The "grapevine" could, and should, be a means of spreading good tidings, i.e. the advising of the availability of good, new and recognized varieties; the absolute dependability of this fertilizer or that insecticide; the quality packing and plants of a certain commercial; the discussion of a duplication or inferior variety. It should not be the medium of unintentional misconstructions; targets for libel suits; or a playground for plain, down-right unadulterated mischief.

"Do unto others as you would have them do unto you" is still the best law, or rule, thought up by God or man.

Don't Take Chances!
PROTECT THOSE PRECIOUS VIOLETS

KAPSULATE - Means Sodium Selenate in Capsules by KAPCO. In a safer form to control mite on African violets.

Kills Insects Thru the Soil
Also used on other houseplants

18 capsules $1.25

NuPHOS-K is a soluble 15-30-15 complete plant food for liquid feeding.

7 ounces 49¢

Use KAPSULATE every 3 months for insect control.

Feed NuPHOS-K every 2 weeks for vigorous plant growth.

Both KAPSULATE and NuPHOS-K for $1.49.

KELLY AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS CO.
603 Walnut Street
McKEESPORT, PENNA.

QUESTION BOX

LAURETTA L. LITTIG 3016 Jefferson Ave. Davenport, Iowa

When sending in your questions, don't forget to give your address. I have received letters with no address, and one with no signature. So, if you haven't had a reply, write me again and I shall be glad to answer your question.

QUESTIONS

What makes a "wobbly" plant? I have a plant that reminds me of a tumble weed —looks like a whiff of wind would blow it right out of the pot. The plant doesn't seem to grow, although it looks healthy otherwise. The main stem doesn't seem strong enough to hold the plant up.

Mrs. James Easson, Kans.

Is it possible to get a pink violet when propagating a leaf from a purple violet? A man told me he had only two violet plants, both purple. He started a leaf from one of these plants, from which he says he got a pink violet.

Mrs. Ann Stutko, Mo.

Two of my double violets, also a single purple one, had good healthy foliage, and were blooming nicely. When I looked at them last night, they were fine. This morning, I found a leaf on the table, and three blossoms had no petals, only the yellow centers. The stem of another leaf was nearly eaten through. On another plant, the tip of a leaf hanging over the side of the pot had been eaten on the edge. Some leaves had tiny holes eaten in them. What kind of an insect could have done this, and what should I do? My plants are on a table with metal legs.

Mrs. F. E. Peterson, Mont.

What is an ideal specimen plant for a Flower Show? Is it considered proper to have more than one crown?

D. Ryan, Iowa

Is it best to turn the violet plant every few days? I have been told it is better for the plant not to turn it but to let it face one direction. Is it natural for them to blossom all the time, as some people say, or should they have a rest period?

Mrs. E. Fischer, no address

Please tell me what to do about suckers on a plant. I usually take them off while they are small. Now I notice one of my big plants is loaded with nice blossoms, and I am at a loss to know whether to repot and take off these suckers and start new plants or to wait until it stops blooming. I have been told these suckers will never bloom on the plant, but will form new plants if potted.

Mrs. Clara Van Vranken, N. Y.

ANSWERS

Lice On Plants

To Mrs. Homer Willis, Pa.

I, too, tried all the known remedies for lice on violets with no success. In desperation, I used "Knox It," an insecticide powder containing 10% D. D. T. This proved to be effective. I dusted the whole plant thoroughly and left the powder on for two weeks. Then I washed it off and no lice returned. I think any powder that contains 10% D. D. T. would be all right.

F. Louise Pearsall, N. Y.

Tiny Flies—Drops of Water

To Rosamond V. Earnest, Tenn.

The tiny flies which come up from your soil are probably due to unsterilized fertilizer in your soil. Pulverized sheep manure is often the cause of these flies or gnats. In damp or cool weather, violets are inclined to have drops of water form on the edge of the leaf. It is called "weeping" and is not caused by the flies.

For your tiny flies, water with N. N. O. R. spray solution early in the morning as often as your plants need water. Do this for about a month.

Mrs. B. A. Anderton, Tenn.

Lady Geneva

To Mrs. Freda Binne, Ohio

When I received my "Lady Geneva" in the mail, it had a few small blossoms with a dim white border. I was told to keep it away from direct light and in a cool place. I put it in a north window back of the other plants. It is now blooming again and is really beautiful. The flowers are large with distinct white edges. All the leaves I have propagated have the white border on the flowers, but I have been told that some of them do not.

H. Hunt, Iowa

Variegated Leaves

To Richard White, Mass.

The white streaks on your leaves could be caused from watering with too cool water or watering when the plant was too near the window in cold weather, even

though the water didn't touch the leaves. this has happened to several of my plants. On the other hand you might have a plant with variegated leaves. Sometimes half of the leaf is white and the other half streaked with green. I saw a large variegated plant the other day with a lot of blossoms. It was very pretty and quite unusual looking.

Mrs. E. Carlson, Ill.

Mildew on Plants

To Mrs. Ruth W. Brown, Ind.

Mildew often occurs in damp, muggy weather, also when plants are watered at night from the top and allowed to remain wet in cool weather. Pick off stems very carefully that have it, and destroy. It can spread by careless handling, by the spores that are carriers of mildew. Dusting sulphur around the top of the soil and in among the leaves will help.

Helen Pochurek, Ohio

Plantlets on Flower Stems

To Mrs. Roy Spring, Ohio

You have what is often referred to as a hanging basket plant. I have several that are doing the same thing. One has about six plants hanging around the edge of the pot. Place a rim of aluminum foil around the pot, or they may rot off where they touch the pot. If treated with care, these little plants will often throw out another runner from the first. Mine have done this and now have buds on the second little plant.

Helen Pochurek, Ohio

Wilted Leaves

To Mrs. Mabel Weaver, Pa.

There are several different things that cause the leaves to soften or wilt. I distinguish them as root rot, crown rot, and stem rot. With root rot, the roots just rot away until there is no means by which sap can get up to the leaves. This comes on rather slowly. The leaves wilt a little, then more until the whole plant finally dies. Crown rot comes on suddenly, the plant wilting all over, and the top just comes off in your hands. The stem or crown has rotted off between the leaves and roots. In the early stages, the top of the plant is wobbly. Your instinct is to push the soil up around the crown to make it firm in the pot—and that is the wrong thing to do. In leaf rot, when you pull the wilted leaf, it comes right off, as it has rotted at the base of the petiole. This is generally caused by repotting too deeply, the lower leaves being buried in the soil. The way to cure these rots is, of course, to keep the plant on the dry side. Too much water, too much humidity, or something of that kind, has started the rot, and this too moist condition must be corrected. This leaf softening generally occurs in my mature plants, well watered, mostly in the fall or after a long spell of cloudy weather. I do not consider it is a disease of itself, although I think it makes the plant more vulnerable to the entry of fungus rots of various sorts. I think it is also an indication that the plant is no longer young and vigorous, that it has reached the limit of its growth and is probably on its way down unless you do something radical like repotting, moving to a larger pot, changing the amount of light fertilizer, or something of the sort.

On older plants, it is natural for some of the outer leaves to come off, as the plant has the leaves it can support with the new leaves coming in the center. When these outer leaves wilt or get bedraggled, they should be taken off.

H. G. Harvey, Ga.

AFRICAN VIOLETS

Leaves . . . Plants

Many new varieties. Send for list.
Leaves 3 for $1.00. Minimum order $3.00

NOKER'S PLANT NURSERY
West Chestnut Ave. Vineland, N. J.

Orlyt GREENHOUSE
$450

Excellent for Growing African Violets or Anything Else You Choose
Made in sections all ready for simple assembly with bolts and screws . . . Easy-to-put-up anywhere, anytime. $450 buys the 10 by 11 ft. Orlyt shown ready to put on your foundation. Five other basic models including Lean-tos and Greenhouses with straight sides priced from $210. Automatic heat and ventilation at reasonable prices. Convenient terms available. Write for Booklet No. 59.

LORD & BURNHAM
IRVINGTON N. Y. DES PLAINES ILL.

AFRICAN VIOLETS

Leaves . . . Plants

Most of the older varieties and limited stock of many new ones, including Fringettes, White Girl, and Fantasy. Write for List

ORCHARD NURSERY
Successors to E. H. THOMAS
RR No. 1, Box 483 Lafayette, Calif.

VIOLET PILGRIMAGE

Daisy Jones, Tenn.

Three years ago I suggested in our quarterly BULLETIN that our Memphis & Shelby County African Violet Club have an African Violet Pilgrimage. This, we did, but in small groups of just a few club members driving by to see some of their friends' African violets when they were at their heighth of blooming.

However, at our June, 1950 meeting, our President, Mrs. W. E. Ward, put it to a vote as to whether we wanted a tea or Pilgrimage and Picnic for the incoming and outgoing officers. Well, believe me, the vote was unanimous for the Pilgrimage and Picnic. Thursday, June 29th, was the date decided upon and we sent members postal cards telling them to telephone in their reservations if they planned to attend and giving them a schedule of the time and starting place of the Pilgrimage which started at 9:30 A.M. Ninety-six members phoned in reservations.

We visited three homes in different sections of town. Each home had a gorgeous display of Saintpaulias, blooming and non-blooming plants all marked with the variety name. We actually saw varieties that the average African violet enthusiast will not be able to secure for the next two or three years. We saw whole series of the Gypsies, many, many new duPonts, some of the new doubles and some of the new Girl varieties.

We were steadily on the go until one P.M. at which time we went to the twenty-two acre estate of Mrs. H. B. May Jr. at Forest Hills, where we found everything provided for the picnic lunch. The front lawn of the beautiful Colonial home had groups of chairs placed under the large shady oak and mimosa trees and under large yellow lawn umbrellas, and gentle southern breezes were blowing. All during the lunch we talked "African violets".

Just after lunch, Mrs. Ward presented the hostess, Mrs. May, with a lovely pair of ceramic ear bobs and pin in the shape of duPont African violets. Then, three lucky numbers were called and the winners were given packages of plant food. Plastic Wik-Fed pots were given to the Chairman of the Pilgrimage, Mrs. W. C. Hope, and to the co-Chairman, Mrs. May, Sr.

All in all, we had a lovely African Violet Day; we came away with thoughts of violets blooming everywhere. There is no doubt in my mind that our Club Members will unanimously vote again next year for another African Violet Pilgrimage and Picnic. It was a treat and will long live in our memory as a day spent very happily and pleasantly with our hobby, those de-LOVELY AFRICAN VIOLETS!

THE SELECT VIOLET HOUSE

MARY MEEDS

Box 1444, Youngstown, Ohio

Formerly

R. G. Baxters Greenhouse

I am the first to offer you "LACY GIRL" for sale $3.00 each, 2 for $5.00. This beautiful variety took the spotlight at the Philadelphia Show. Originated by the West Side Greenhouses.

AN INVITATION TO YOU!

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ROIGINA

African Violet Plant Food in capsule form. 40¢ postpaid

BOTTRELL'S GIFT SHOP

816 N. First Street,

SPRINGFIELD, ILL.

Do Your Blossoms . . .

Drop off after Watering?

Lorna Anderson, Mich.

I often hear this remark, "Why do my blossoms fall off after I water my plants?"

By careful observation and study of my plants for a considerable period of time, I have found that if I water my plants around seven-thirty at night they will retain their pretty blossoms for a longer length of time.

I believe that this may be due to a higher sugar and starch content in the plants at this time of the day.

So far I have had no troubles -- my plants are free from bacterial diseases, even when watered while the temperature is dropping and the humidity is rising.

AFRICAN VIOLETS - Quality Plants . . .

WHITE BEAUTY (White Boy)	$2.00	VIOLET BEAUTY	$1.50
BLUE EYED BEAUTY	$2.25	LAVENDER GIRL HYBRID	$1.50
WHITE GIRL (Detroit)	$2.25	PURPLE GIRL HYBRID	$1.50
SNOW PRINCE (New)	$2.25	SUNRISE	$1.50
MOTTLED WHITE (A Beauty)	$2.50	RED GIRL HYBRID	$1.50
ORCHID WONDER	$1.50	ORCHID BICOLOR	$1.50
RED KING	$1.50	HYBRID BLUE GIRL	$1.50
LAVENDER BEAUTY	$1.50	LILAC PRINCESS	$1.25
SAILOR GIRL	$1.50	FANTASY	$2.50
BLUE WARRIOR	$1.50	MENTOR BOY AMAZON (Black Beauty)	$1.75
LAVENDER PINK PRINCESS	$1.50	DOUBLE NEPTUNE (Queen Neptune)	$1.75
SAFFRON RED BOY	$1.50	SHOW GIRL	$1.50
GORGEOUS BICOLOR	$1.50		
LACY GIRL	$2.75		

These are LARGE blooming size plants, ready upon delivery to claim the spotlight in your window. Orders filled in rotation - - sent to you as soon as the weather becomes mild. Plants healthy and pest free, state inspected. Orders over $5.00 postpaid, under $5.00 please add 50¢ for packing and postage. If special delivery is desired please include 35¢ additional on orders of any size. Iowa customers, please add 2% sales tax as required by state law.

SAINTPAULIA HOUSE

(Mrs. Dorothy Young)

534 N. GREEN STREET OTTUMWA, IOWA

HYPONeX
Grows Better Plants Faster
In SOIL, SAND or WATER

Simply dissolve and water all your houseplants, garden flowers, vegetables, shrubs or lawn. Produces stronger plants, more and larger flowers and fruit. Excellent for starting seedlings, cuttings, transplants. Clean, odorless. Won't burn foliage or roots if used as directed. Contains all nutritional elements complete and balanced—plus vitamin B1—instantly available. Results sure.

If your dealer can't supply you send $1 for 1 lb. can postpaid. Makes 100 gallons

HYDROPONIC Chemical Co., Inc. Copley, O.

AFRICAN VIOLETS

New Varieties
Old Varieties
Variegated Varieties

Send Stamp For List

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Fayette, Ohio

POTS FOR AFRICAN VIOLETS

4" "Squatty" Clay Flower Pots, dark red in color and with excellent porosity, are ideal for AFRICAN VIOLETS. Has specially treated edges to help prevent sloughing off of leaves. Used by florists for growing violets, and recommended as one of the best for good results. Shipped prepaid parcel post.

4 for $1.00 10 for $2.00
25¢ additional postage west of the Rockies

CERAMO COMPANY

Box 84-A Jackson, Missouri

SPECIALIZING IN
AFRICAN VIOLETS
Send For Free Price List
TONKADALE GREENHOUSE
Rt. 3 Box 233 Hopkins, Minn.

PLANTING by the MOON

Ada Muir, Canada

First we must consider the nature of our plant and whether we are interested in the part which grows above the ground or that which matures under the ground. Of those which mature for our use above the ground, we have lettuce, cabbage, cauliflower, as well as the indoor and outdoor flowers. Those which mature under the ground are potatoes, carrots, etc. If you are interested in those which mature above the ground, choose dates during the two weeks following a New Moon, but for those which produce their crop under the ground, choose those dates after the Full Moon.

The African Violet prefers a humid atmosphere and some of the signs are what are termed Water Signs. The influence of those signs is carefully noted by some farmers, for they know that, if they dig out the vegetables while the Moon is passing through a Water Sign, they will have great difficulty in preventing mold forming even though it might be a dry, sunny day.

The Sun is in Water Signs from about February 19 to March 20; from June 22 to July 23; from October 24 to November 23. We should then give first choice to days during these periods when the Moon is also in a Water Sign, and for sowing seed, planting leaves, etc., from the New to the Full Moon.

These dates are March 7, 16, 17, July 4, 13, 14, October 31, November 7, 8.

Next best periods are when the Sun is reflecting the influence of Earth Signs and these are: December 22 to January 21; April 21 to May 21; August 24 to September 24, and during these periods we choose those dates when the Moon is either in Earth or Water Signs, and from New to Full for sowing or planting.

These dates are: January 7, 11, 12, 15, 16, 21; May 10, 11, 15, 16, 19, 20; September 1, 2, 5, 6, 10, 14.

The non-fertile periods are as the Sun is reflecting the influence of Fire or Air Signs, from January 21 to February 18, March 21 to April 20, May 22 to June 21, July 23 to August 23, September 24 to October 23, November 23 to December 22. It might suit your purpose to use dates during these periods, and if so, these will be the best dates: February 7, 8, 12, 13, 17, 18; April 8, 9, 12, 13, 17, 18; June 6, 7, 11, 12, 16, 17; August 5, 6, 9, 10, 13, 14. Plants will require more watchful care if these dates are used.

If you are treating your plants for any disease condition, or for those who plant them outside, weeding, choose dates after the Full Moon for best results.

HOMING PIGEON

Cont. from Page 37

can violet lovers already. If we have good luck with the little plants after we get them in the pots, we hope to have nice blooming plants to take home to the Mothers next spring when school closes. All the other grades are interested in our project and the teachers have been stopping in our room to look at our plants.

Irene Russell, N. C., Unit 46

Grace Eyerdom has a plan to increase interest among the members of her Pigeon Unit. To each member of the Unit she mailed several leaves. These leaves are only numbered -- there is no other means of identification. Each member is to try to identify the leaves and to plant them by her favorite method. The plan is to see who can grow to maturity a SPECIMEN plant in the shortest length of time. Each member is to keep a record of the progress of her plant, when it was planted, how soon it rooted, how soon it developed a plant -- etc. When the plant has reached maturity and is a blooming specimen plant, the owner is to photograph her plant or plants if all leaves developed for her. She then is to mail the photo to Mrs. Eyerdom. When all members have sent in their photo entry, qualified judges will judge and the winner will be sent a specified value in dollars of plants from the Eyerdoms' greenhouse as the prize. I may have overlooked a few details in this report. I asked Grace to write up her plan for increasing interest in her Unit, but she is so busy with greenhouse duties that I have tried to do it for her. Wonder who will win this contest! I am hoping that the winner can be announced in this column at some future date.

Pigeon Editor

When putting leaves down to propagate I take a piece of aluminum foil and crumple it up very loosely; it can be made to fit any leaf. Stand it in back of leaf to brace it. It's better than using tooth picks.

Mrs. Pearl Spink, Calif., Unit 104

I have put down a number of leaves in vermiculite, in a large pan. I take a piece of adhesive tape about a quarter of an inch wide and write the name of the variety on with an indelible pencil and gently press it on the back of the leaf. Plant it in the vermiculite, propping it up with tooth picks for support, until the leaf has straighened out, as they do when they start to root. This way you can plant several varieties in one container.

Alice Shoemaker, Wash., Unit 79

I buy the little plastic spoons and forks for just a few cents. I clip the spoon and fork and use only the handle. These are very satisfactory. I also use a large plastic cake cover for a miniature green house for tiny plants.

Aileen Bell, Kans.

Lady Geneva is a variety that frequently has a tendency to revert back to the original Blue Boy stock. However, we did try something that worked out pretty well for us. When the white border was very faint on a good number of plants, we went over them and took off all the blossom stems. This seemed to give them a jolt of some sort—lo, and behold, the next blooms were very definitely marked with the white edge.

Grace Eyerdom, Ohio, Unit 17

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PIGEON EDITOR

And now to all you good little Pigeons -- I am saying farewell. This is my last report. I have asked Mrs. Wright to find someone else to take over as News Editor. I've enjoyed reading your letters and want to thank all Pigeon Directors, as well as their members, for their cooperation.

Sincerely,

Violet Berry

AFRICAN VIOLETS

The Newest Varieties. Also Many Older Varieties. Stamp for list.

"Ferne For Violets"
FERNE KELLAR
1223 E. Oak Park
Des Moines 16, Iowa

PEP-O-PLANT

IDEAL FOOD for House Plants
Especially suited for African violets
Rich in Plant Vitamins
6 oz. bottle added to water
makes 42 quarts
50¢ per bottle postpaid

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WANT EXTRA GROWTH AND VIGOR?

Use ATLAS FERTILIZER EMULSION an all-organic, complete plant food. Contains 22 minerals and trace elements plus B-complex vitamins. No burning. Dilute with water. One pint make 32-96 gallons. Ideal for AFRICAN VIOLETS and all plants - flowers, vegetables, fruits, lawns.

D-Vista Gardens, Salem, Oregon, says: "Results have been excellent. The violets took on fine color and the blooms have been large."

Send $1.00 for trial pint, postage prepaid.

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WE HAVE . . .

"75,000 African Violets" growing in our certified greenhouses at all times. Plants are grown in sterilized soil, selenate treated, all certified stock. Our large supply assures you of highest quality at lowest cost when we fill your order.

Over 115 varieties available in all stages; fresh cut leaves, well rooted cuttings and plants all sizes. We are not merchandisers of Violets but growers with over 25 years experience specializing in the culture of African Violets.

Complete list of supplies, if we don't have it, name it, we'll get it.

WHOLESALE & RETAIL (minimum order wholesale 25 plants) FREE LIST UPON REQUEST — specify which list. OPEN EVERY DAY IN THE YEAR—VISITORS ALWAYS WELCOME.

FRENTZEN FLORAL GARDENS

Dept. A. 309 Lake Ave. Pitman, N. J.

HOW TO USE "FERMATE" FUNGICIDE

Cont. from Page 19

needed less frequently. Cover all plant surfaces of leaves. Many fungi infect primarily through the lower leaf surface.

Seedlings are often attacked by mold organisms at the surface of the soil, resulting in damping off — the rotting and decay of the stems at the ground lines. Spraying or dusting the surface of the soil with Fermate aids in preventing damping off. Apply Fermate evenly and lightly before or as seedlings emerge, using spray or dust concentration given.

FERMATE FOR TREATING FLORAL CUTTINGS

Fermate effectively controls cutting rot and damping off diseases when applied to floral cuttings before planting. Either of the following treatments may be used.

Liquid — Completely immerse cuttings in Fermate spray mixture by dipping up and down 2 or 3 times; drain. A rooting hormone may be applied after draining, if desired. This immersion treatment also prevents the development and carry over of foliage diseases on the cuttings.

Dry — Dip bases of cuttings in dry Fermate powder diluted 50-50 with talc or one of the rooting powders. Tap off any excess.

Fermate Fungicide is now on the markets in 8 oz. canisters.

If there is difficulty in obtaining Fermate, contact your nearby seed store. Fermate is a DuPont product and can be ordered from their distributors.

A VIOLET GIFT

I'm a fragile teen-age Violet
Needing mother-love and care;
A warm home flaunting sunlight;
Water, food and clean fresh air.

Then I'll try my best to blossom
Into such a pretty sight
That your heart will be a-flutter
With the vibrance of delight
At my beauty. You'll be happy---
Happy that you gave me room
When you read . . . "Appreciation
For your kindness" . . . in my bloom.

Grace M. Hartley

WHAT'S IN A SEED

Cont. from Page 13

one Calla Lily Girl," Grace replied. However, it is not officially named. If you can visualize rich bronze green foliage, deeply veined and quilted with a white spot at the base of the leaves, which is curled into a funnel like the Calla Lily, that carries a profusion of true blue blossoms on medium length stems, you may have a vague picture of the sight Calla Lily Girl and the other Mulberry girl seedlings presented. Many of these seedlings are compact or miniature in growth. Some have deeply cut or lacy girl type foliage, others are very velvety dark bronze green girl type foliage. All seedlings in this group carry large flowers measuring 1½ to 2 inches across on long stems. Many of them are Bi-color while others are the same shade as their Mother, Mulberry Girl, a rich dark red, round like Neptune.

We were not allowed to tarry long over the seedlings in which I had been so interested, but were ushered to the basement where again African violets were growing under fluorescent daylight lamps; not on nearly such a large scale as we had seen at Mrs. Kellar's, though, because African violets are strictly a hobby with Grace.

She, too, has been working at cross pollination, the results of which were truely a most glorious sight. These plants have deeply scalloped, quilted and pronouncedly veined foliage, some a lettuce green, others are of an olive green shading to velvety bronze. The theory that one "might" have the good fortune to get "one" plant out of hundreds, or even thousands, of seedlings outstanding enough to deserve a name, does not hold true with either this group of Mrs. Gammell's seedlings or Mrs. Kellar's Mulberry Girl seedlings. With very few exceptions, each plant in both groups is an individual with characteristics entirely its own. It may interest some to know Mrs. Gammell's seedlings are a cross of Sailor Boy on Blue Girl. I wish it were possible for me to find the words to express the feeling of awe that possessed me as I admired this outstanding group of seedlings.

Like the Mulberry Girl seedlings, Mrs. Gammell's are also known by number only to date, but in due time these superior saintpaulias must be given a very worthy name.

The amazing thing to me was that the pollination for this later group of plants had been done only sixteen months previous, which made the beautiful specimens we were looking at just seven months old.

Reluctantly we tore ourselves away from Mrs. Gammell and her lovely plants, asking questions and making comments as

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GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS — for the growing of African Violets . . . . . 50¢

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Leaves **Plants**

Newest varieties, Snow Prince, Snow Girl, White Boy, Amazon Gt. Blue, Merkel's No. II, Merkel's Red Ripples, Red Ruffles, Show Girl, Fantasy. Orders in rotation on Double White. Stamp for list.

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Control Watering of Your African violets.

No. 8 Oval 3x4x4 at $1.50
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Terra Cotta and Stone Grey

See Article and Pictures, Page 17, Sept. Issue This Magazine.

F. O. B.

TOPPING HILL CRAFT

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MANY VARIETIES

We ship from 3-inch pots.

Descriptive list free

AFRICAN VIOLET SOIL—Sterilized 5 lb., $1.10; 10 lb., $2.00
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N. N. O. R.—6 oz., $1.25; 16 oz., $2.50
VERMICULITE—4 qt., 40c
STIM ROOT—2 oz., $1.00
Painted Wood Labels, 5 in., $1 per 100

Above sent prepaid

SODIUM SELENATE—Enough for 1 gal. solution, 25¢ & stamped envelope. We welcome our friends who are traveling to and from the Convention

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HOUSEPLANT NURSERY
BUNKER HILL, INDIANA

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Their Care and Propagation

By HELEN B. GILBERT, M.A.

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You can grow **beautiful, healthy, flowering plants.** This illustrated book gives **step-by-step directions.**

Only $1.00 postpaid

★

WILLSON PRESS BOX 6A PHELPS, N. Y.

we wended our way to the car for a dashing visit with Maxine Wangberg, some forty miles away.

It was a delightful two or three hours we spent, that afternoon, looking at more saintpaulias in Maxine's lovely greenhouse. Then as twilight began to fall, we made our way back to Mrs. Kellar's home. There the early hours of the morning found Mary and I still swamping Ferne with questions. I do not mind telling you it was hard to start on our way home Wednesday morning. A good-bye would be said when suddenly one or the other of us would think of something else to ask Ferne, or to have her reassure us of this or that. Once we had waved our last good-bye to Ferne, we headed home via Ottumwa, Iowa, to make a call on Mrs. Robert Young, who, of course, is an African violet enthusiast. We found her well on the way with the building of an African violet greenhouse.

Did some one say, "Where do these African Violets take us?"

LOST MEMBERS

INFORMATION ! !

The following members cannot be located by these present addresses. Please help us find them.

Mrs. T. M. Sewell
436 Fenton Place,
Charlotte, N. C.

Mrs. Julia S. Moore
108 Eleventh Street,
Elkins, W. Va.

Mrs. L. F. Palenski
Taxico, Kansas

Iva Moore
Fort Dodge, Iowa

Mrs. T. R. Blair
1620 6th
Topeka, Kansas

Mrs. W. L. Botkin
4664 Camelia
New Orleans, La.

Mrs. James Cooper
905 St. Louis Ave.
Excelsior Springs, Mo.

MEET MY FAVORITES

Cont. from Page 18

it all, and the motto, which was inscribed on the front of the grade school I attended, came to mind: SEEK KNOWLEDGE - - POSSESS WISDOM. I have learned a great deal about African violets in the past few years, and now am beginning to realize how very little we know about them.

While I was getting over the shock of my literary failure, my seedlings got alternate amounts and varying degrees of tender loving care and pure neglect, but they grew! More than sixty of them bloomed, and if I had had room, I think I would have kept them all. I had a number of outstanding plants, not all of commercial value, but pretty in a collection.

Blue Snow is one of my favorites. It is a lovely sparkling, light, lavender-blue with mature blossoms about 1¾ inches across. The foliage is a medium dark green, sometimes with a lighter streak in the center, and, depending on the exposure, sometimes red underneath. The leaves are quilted and scalloped.

Moonglow blossoms open a very deep wine color, and each day they become lighter until the mature flowers are a very light orchid. The edges of the petals are slightly curly and shaded a little more than the rest of the blossom. The leaf is medium to bluish green, and is round. I, personally, wasn't too impressed with this plant, but visitors invariably picked it out as something different.

Polly is a pretty little thing, with flowers only 1½ inches across. Leaves are quilted like Neptune and evenly scalloped. The flower is a red-orchid, cupped blossom, with a dark line etched around the edge. As the blossom grows older, it is streaked like 'pique'.

Lady Slipper is an exquisite orchid with the petals pinched back, yet with the tip of the lower one turning up. The leaves are dark green with light green veins and they are shiny, pimply, slightly wavy and narrow. The flowers are held high above the foliage and, though not borne in such profusion as some other varieties, their quality is worth more than a quantity of less beautiful flowers.

Last, but by no means least, is Love Birds. It has a lovely light green, slightly quilted leaf and an intriguing blossom by which it won its name. The tips of the top petals are a dark wine color, and since the remainder of the petals are light

IDEAL PLANT FOOD

FOR PLANT LOVERS

This perfectly balanced, 100% water soluble, plant food will give new life, gorgeous bloom, stronger roots to all plants. Guarantee bloom in African violets. Ideal for starting seedlings, cuttings and transplants. Your gardening friends will be delighted with Plant Marvel as a gift from you. 16 oz. can makes 250 gals. plant food. Handy measure, directions and free leaflet on African violets with each pkg. $1.25 P.Pd.

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Now offering

White King	Sea Girl
Blue Eyed Beauty	Rose Marie
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Double Neptune	Neptune Supreme
Red King	Blue Warrior
Bronze Girl	Gorgeous Spoon Leaf

and many others.

Send for free price list. We supply Wik-Fed pots, potting soil, plant food, The African Violet Book, etc.

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PROSPECT, OHIO

AFRICAN VIOLET SEED —

from many crosses of many varieties, $1.00 for approx. 300 seeds. Planting instructions included. If interested in Extra Special Crosses, $3.00 a pkg. Send for list.

FRIENDLY GARDENS

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EASY-FASCINATING

AFRICAN VIOLET SEED KIT

Here's a real indoor gardening thrill! Grow African Violets from seed easily — all guesswork removed. You'll get 25 to 75 fine plants, all different and each one is, technically, an entirely new variety. No two alike. Kit was developed from the recommendations of one of America's leading African Violet experts. Contains propagating box, special growing mixture, soil conditioner and 100 African Violet seeds. One of finest seed strains, plants have up to 20 flowers at one time. Complete, easily followed instructions included, plus a bulletin "African Violet Care." Send $1.25 to: MAHR CO., BOX 585, Dept. 11, Des Moines, Iowa.

J. A. PETERSON SONS
REQUESTS

That you visit our greenhouses on your trip to the convention in Dayton this Spring. We have greatly expanded our facilities for growing Saintpaulias in the past year. Our greenhouses have been turned over to the Violet almost 100%.

We ship a minimum of 1 carton—either 25-3-in. or 25-2¼-in. These may be assorted varieties.

Write for our price list covering 100 varieties.

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PLANTSMITH

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orchid, it looks just like a pair of lovebirds. If grown in a good light (mine does best at an eastern exposure) the tips of the three lower petals are a dark wine, also. We first called this plant "Jimmy's Bi-Color" because our 12 year old claimed it. The more appropriate name was found later, but not until after the plant was shown at the Metropolitan African Violet Club Show in Alexandria, Virginia, in May, 1949, as Jimmy's Bi-Color. It has been well liked, is a good bloomer, and we are justly proud of it.

If any of you have time on your hands, just try planting a pack of African violet seeds. After there are shelves on every available window, and there just isn't any more room anywhere, who knows, - you may be the very person who will find the answer to "Where shall I put them?" One thing is certain, the pleasure one gets from growing African violets and the friendships that are formed through them gives one the feeling that "this old world ain't such a bad place after all".

"Please mention THE AFRICAN VIOLET MAGAZINE when answering the advertisements."

VIOLET TREASURE HOUSE

Right Down Town **Opposite Post Office**
217 W. Emma Ave.
SPRINGDALE, ARKANSAS

Blooming Plants — Started Plants - - Leaves
Over 100 Varieties — Send for list

Blue Eyed Beauty, Violet Beauty, Lavender Beauty, White Girl, Red King, Red Queen, Red Beauty, Lavender Girl, Fringettes, Orchid Wonder, other late ones, mostly in bloom, $1.00 each.

Dozens of older varieties at 75¢.

Orders for 3 plants postpaid; on smaller orders, add 50¢.

HEAVY-ROOTED RUGGED SHOW PLANTS
When in Northwest Arkansas, visit our Violet Greenhouses.

AFRICAN VIOLET FLOWER PINS

Ceramics in all colors. $1.50 prepaid.

MRS. LILLIE KUEHN
4026 Garden Ave.
MERCHANTSVILLE 11, N. J.

WHAT OF THE FUTURE

Cont. from Page 35

African violets and other house plants as is Dale Ulery will be unwilling to consider any first generation hybrids as proven new and different varieties. That, of course, is as it should be, and Mr. Ulery will undoubtedly test-grow leaf cuttings of every one of his unusual new hybrids, in order to ascertain whether they will reproduce true to form. Such proof is necessary, of course, and will be your guarantee that when these new hybrids reach you they will be proven varieties and not unreliable variants. Test-growing consumes a reasonable length of time and is already well under way with these hybrids in the Ulery greenhouses.

It also stands to reason that it will require a sufficient length of time for Mr. Ulery to propagate leaf cuttings in sufficient numbers to provide adequate stock of these hybrids he selects for introduction to the retail trade. These essentially delaying factors naturally mean that properly proven varieties cannot reach you and me within the next few weeks or perhaps months. Patience! I believe that I can offer you the assurance that these new things of Mr. Ulery will be well worth waiting for.

I believe we may reasonably expect some of the hybrids in all three of the categories indicated, both singles and doubles—particularly those with bloom of white background that are heavily marked with stripes down the center of the petals —will not come true to form when test-grown. There will be variants, not essentially to be regarded as mutants (sports), that are really distinctive in foliage, color and design of bloom, and otherwise but whose bloom are not all of an identical design, particularly as to marking. Some of these variants may be so outstanding and different that their originator will desire to carefully select a group of them as a new strain or series; and to give the entire series thus selected an appropriate name rather than attempt to identify each one of the plants in a group of this kind as a separate and distinct variety, or to give each one of the plants a separate name. To do the latter might be decidedly misleading.

Perhaps it will better clarify the conditions indicated in the preceding paragraph by citing the following illustration. Let us say that a particular selected series or strain will produce from leaf cuttings some ten to fifteen plants with beautifully marked bloom. But while the foliage of each of these ten to fifteen plants may be identical or nearly so, no two of them will have bloom that is identically marked. All will have, let us say, bloom with pure white background, but the design of blue or other color tint marking on them will vary somewhat. In an instance of this kind, after proper test-growing, the series or

LEAF CUTTINGS, SEEDS and "SLIPS" GROW LIKE MAGIC

Success every time with this amazing, attractive Humidity Dome -- right in your own living room!

No need to be lucky - - - this fascinating miniature greenhouse takes the guesswork out of starting ALL house plants from seeds and cuttings. Scientific vent construction automatically controls humidity and condensation - - - prevents leaves from wilting and seeds from drying out. Complete with the only self-watering, durable glass plant container made. The glass walls of the Hamilton containers insulate the roots from the changing temperatures of day and night. Choice of SOFT colors of Rose Quartz or Leaf Green, with crystal Dome. Overall height, 10".

$2.95 complete

3 sets for $8.20, postpaid

Extra Plant Containers, $1.50 each, 3 for $3.95

FREE BOOKLET with order, "Success with House Plants including African Violets." Single copies, 10¢ each.

See your Florist or Nurseryman, or order from

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AFRICAN VIOLETS

New Spring African Violet List Now Ready. Leaves and Plants. Write for Free Copy.

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NEWNAN, GEORGIA

WILL YOU HELP?

"A request has been received from Salt Lake City Veterans Hospital for a Project there, but to date it has not been possible to locate anybody to sponsor it. Can you make any suggestions? Write any ideas you might have to Mr. Neil C. Miller, Director, Veterans Project, Layton's Lake, Penns Grove, N. J."

WHAT???

NOT ON OUR
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SEND YOUR NAME & ADDRESS

TODAY!!!!!

Russward

JONESBORO,
ARKANSAS

BACK ISSUES OF MAGAZINE

Not all back issues of the magazine are now in print.

Requests for these must be made on penny post cards and you will be notified which ones are available.

Do not send money until you are notified.

JUDGES SCHOOL

Thursday April 26, 1951 at Hotel Dayton Biltmore, Dayton Ohio.

Schedule for School:

Registration - 8:00 to 9:00 A.M. Thursday

Class 9:00 to 11:30 A.M.

Luncheon - 11:30 to 12:30 P.M.

Examination - 12:30 to 2:30 P.M.

All reservations must be sent in to the Convention Chairman, Mrs. Nelle Berst, 434 Williams St., Dayton 7, Ohio by April 1st. No reservations for Judging School will be accepted after this date.

Please read this schedule carefully and make your reservation with the Convention Chairman by April 1st. No reservations will be accepted after this date. It is most necessary to know how many to plan for to insure the efficient operation of the Judges School.

WHAT OF THE FUTURE?

strain may be given some such appropriate name as the "Rainbow Series" and this named series would be accordingly registered with the African Violet Society of America.

The naming of a series, instead of attempting to identify and name each separate plant in it, is a rather new idea and is suggested purely in the interest of helping to meet probable future needs of a sound and simplified nomenclature for African violets. While I do not endorse this suggestion and have no reason to believe that the Society's Committee on Registration would either approve or disapprove such a suggestion, I do believe it is something to begin thinking about seriously at this time.

A sketchy article of this kind does not even begin to do justice in a full and complete description of each one of these exceptionally fine new hybrids. It is hoped, therefore, that the Ulerys will exhibit each one that they select for introduction at the forthcoming Annual Convention in Dayton, Ohio, next month.

The future is bright and will, I am certain, continue to grow brighter for all of us who grow and admire African violets.

ISOLOMA

(Greek meaning "equal border")

Louise F. Smouse, S. C.

Isoloma is a cousin of our African violet, believed to be the least hybridized of the Gesneriaceae, that is, most nearly original. There are about fifty species from Tropical America.

These greenhouse or warm window plants grow with similar care to our "pet," from creeping rhizomes to flowers single or clustered, five lobed and of varicolor, orange or scarlet.

I. amabile grows native to Columbia. Grows to two feet high with erect stems and ovate leaves, a dull green blotched purple along the main vein.

I. hirsuta is an erect branching shrub to four feet. The leaves short petioled, and inch long solitary purple nodding flowers.

I. bogatense or Tydaea grow to two feet and are hairy. The ovate leaves, cordate at the base, are spotted and veined with silver green and edged reddish. The blossom is red, yellow spotted and nodding.

I. hondence is more diminutive, growing to one foot. The leaf is hairy and ovate, the flowers yellow, an inch or more long, with the tube spotted with bright red hairs.

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for
AFRICAN VIOLET GROWING

SODIUM SELENATE
For control of mite on African violets. Put up in capsules so user does not have to worry about either weighing the material or handling the dry powder. Convenient for either Standard or Extra Dilute Method of treatment. Used regularly by many hobbyists to be sure a mite infestation could not be introduced. 12 capsules, enough for about 200 plants, for one dollar postpaid.

PLASTIC PLANT LABELS
Considered by many enthusiastic users to be the handiest and most permanent marker yet devised. Can be written on with ordinary lead pencil, and the pencil marking is permanent throughout the life of the plant, but it can be completely erased and the label used over again. Won't rot, mildew, or break. 3/8 by 4 inches in size, big enough to carry variety name and other notations, but not so large they "steal the pot." as other markers do.

Thickness A. Thin, will bend with leaves. 125 for one dollar, postpaid.
Thickness B. Thicker, inserts into soil easier. 100 for one dollar, postpaid.
Larger sizes also available.

BONE MEAL
CHARCOAL
GROUND LIMESTONE
SUPERPHOSPHATE
The hard-to-get items that many people have trouble obtaining. In small, easy-to-use packages. Shipped in containers of about two quart capacity. One dollar per container, postpaid.

Also combination package of bone meal, charcoal, ground limestone, and superphosphate, one dollar, postpaid.
West of Denver add 15 cents postage.
What else do you have trouble getting?
Drop me a line, I may have it also.

FERMATE
The duPont fungicide which many people have already used successfully on African Violets and which would probably be much more widely used if it had been more readily available. Standard 8-ounce duPont package, one dollar, postpaid.
Also other duPont Garden Products. Write for circulars and prices. Prices on duPont products include all handling charges.

LEAF MAILING KIT
The quickest way to build a collection is to exchange leaves with others, in widely separated parts of the country. But mailing leaves has frequently been unsatisfactory, preparation for mailing is messy and time consuming, and the leaves dry out or are crushed. Kit consists of transparent waterproof envelopes, plastic labels, and sturdy crush-re-sisting tubular mailing case. To use, simply place leaves in individual envelopes, insert plastic labels for identification, seal envelopes, place in mailing case, address and mail. No messing with tin foil, waxed paper or absorbent cotton, nor time lost in hunting for a strong box. Mailing case can be used over and over; refills of envelopes and labels are available. Why not get one of these kits and build a collection fast by keeping it traveling back and forth between you and several friends with leaves of new varieties as soon as you acquire them? Convenient for those Pigeon exchanges that never get done otherwise.

Complete kit, one dollar, postpaid.

NEIL C. MILLER
Layton's Lake
PENNS GROVE, N. J.

Club NEWS

Maxine Wangberg, Club Editor
1920 W. 3rd. St.
Perry, Iowa.

TOPEKA AFRICAN VIOLET CLUB

The Topeka African Violet Society was organized May 19, 1949, and now has a membership of sixteen, of which number there are thirteen who also belong to the National Society. Meetings are held in the homes of members on the fourth Saturday of the month.

Officers elected for this year are:

President,	Mrs. D. N. Wade
Vice President,	Mrs. J. M. Almgren
Treasurer,	Mrs. E. A. Fitzgerald
Secretary,	Mrs. Harry R. Logan
Press Corres.,	Miss Sidney M. Gardner

SOCIETY IN PORTLAND

Five Portland women, all members of the African Violet Society of America, Inc., called a meeting on May 17, 1950, for those interested in growing saintpaulias, and after hearing talks from the members, the group voted to form the Portland African Violet Society. After two meetings, the membership has grown to twenty-six. Meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday night of each month.

Officers elected for a six month's period are:

President,	Mrs. Harry Arndt
1st Vice-Pres.,	Mrs. G. T. Goldwaite
2nd Vice-Pres.,	Mrs. Chas. Baker
Secy. & Publicity,	Mrs. A. C. Button
Treasurer,	Mrs. Lloyd E. Brown

OHIO VALLEY SOCIETY

The Ohio Valley African Violet Society, which was organized in June, elected the following officers:

President,	Miss Anna Rehm
Vice President,	Mrs. A. R. Bitzer, Jr.
Secretary,	Mrs. Russell L. Heslop
Treasurer,	Mrs. J. J. Watson

This club has a membeship of seventeen, and will hold it's full meetings at the Garden Center at Oglebay Park, Wheeling, W. Va.

AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY OF CHICAGO

The African Violet Society of Chicago held its first Annual Spring Luncheon on June 7, 1950, at the Irving Park YMCA. Nearly one hundred enthusiastic African violet fanciers, consisting of members and friends of the Aurora, Crystal Lake, Rockford, and Chicago groups, attended. Our Regional Advisor of Illinois, Mrs. E. G. Magill of Aurora, gave an interesting talk on the "Facts and Fancies of African Violets". Included in her talk was a summary of the Convention held in Philadelphia in May. Mrs. Yoars of Bunkerhill, Indiana, was on hand with a beautiful display of many of the newer African violets from her nursery. Visiting Presidents were, Mrs. Eunice Livingston, Aurora, Mrs. Blanche Kirwin, Crystal Lake, and Mrs. Maybelle Rice, Rockford.

LEBANON, TENNESSEE CLUB

The Wilson County African Violet Club of Lebanon, Tennessee and vicinity was organized July 12, 1950, with the following officers:

President,	Miss Josephine Pitcock
Vice President,	Mrs. C. E. Wright
Secy. & Treas.,	Mrs. Alice M. Cleveland

The Club meets the third Wednesday of each month at three o'clock.

ROCHESTER OFFICERS

The newly elected officers for the African Violet Society of Rochester and Vicinity are:

President,	Mrs. Harry Thompson
1st Vice-Pres.,	Mrs. Charles Anthony
2nd Vice-Pres.,	Mrs. Carey B. Ostrander
Rec. Secy.,	Mrs. John Grover
Corres. Secy.,	Mrs. Robert L. Derleth
Treasurer,	Mr. Edwin Chasey

CLEVELAND OFFICERS

At the November meeting of the Metropolitan Cleveland African Violet Society, the following officers were re-elected for the year 1950-1951:

President, Mrs. Frank Pochurek
Vice-Pres., Mrs. Joseph Hodan
Secretary, Mrs. Leslie Conant
Librarian and Historian, Mrs. John McKay
Treasurer, Mrs. John Held
Trustees, Mrs. Charles Hopeck and Mrs. M. McMahon

This group meets once a month at The Halle Brothers Company or the Higbee Company.

GREATER AKRON SOCIETY PLANS SPRING SHOW

The Greater Akron African Violet Society will hold their show at the M. O'Neil Company, Akron, Ohio, Monday, April 16, 12:30 P. M. to 9 P. M., and Tuesday, April 17, 10 A. M. to 4:30 P. M.

A special welcome is extended to all National Members.

LANSING MICHIGAN

The Double 10 African Violet Club was organized November 8, 1950, with seven charter members. Membership is limited to twenty members as meetings are held in the homes, thus each one has an opportunity to display her violets. We are 100% "National" members, our $3.00 dues constitute membership in both local and national organizations.

List of officers:

President,	Mrs. Leon A. Pottruff.
Vice-Pres.,	Mrs. John Vitovsky.
Sec.-Treas.,	Mrs. Ira Worcester.

REPORT FROM ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA

The Erie County Chapter of the African Violet Society of America, Inc., had its first organization meeting in June at the home of Mrs. James R. Smith. Fifteen ladies were present and indicated their enthusiastic interest in the formation of a local society.

Election of officers took place in July at the Lawrence Park home of Mrs. James J. Prendergast. Elected to office were:

President,	Mrs. James J. Prendergast
Vice-Pres.,	Mrs. Wayne McKinley
Secretary,	Mrs. Stanley Wallace
Treasurer,	Mrs. James R. Smith
Program Chm.,	Mrs. Harry L. Miller

A quota of 25 members and a waiting list of several names was revealed at the September meeting.

HARRISBURG OFFICERS

The Harrisburg African Violet Club met for the first time on February 3, 1950, with 12 charter members. Officers elected were:

President,	Mrs. G. E. Twigg
Vice-Pres.,	Mrs. H. A. Reifsnyder
Treasurer,	Mrs. J. H. Thomas
Secretary,	Mrs. Wm. A. Ziegler

By-laws were drawn up and adopted at a later meeting. A group of seven attended the National convention in Philadelphia. In June the club participated in an exhibit sponsored by the Garden Club of Harrisburg; forty African violets were shown, and ten blue ribbons won by the group. The club meets monthly, and the members give talks on various subjects pertaining to African violets. More than two-thirds of our members have joined the National Society, with new members being added all the time.

Miss Tosh & Mrs. Thalheimer

"BLOSSOMS to BOOST the BUDDIES"

At the Long Beach, California Naval Hospital, Betty Tosh and Mrs. L. D. Thalheimer Pres., of Long Beach Saintpaulia Society are pictured.

This is one of several trays of African violets for the Veterans. The pillow of blossoms is for a guessing contest, the Veteran guessing the names of most varieties has first choice and usually picks Red Headed Girl, Blushing Maiden, or Tinted Lady and so on down the line. They really enjoy having the plants.

MARCH SHOW IN OMAHA

The Omaha African Violet Club has elected the following officers for the coming year:

President,	Mrs. Howard Martin
Vice-Pres.,	Mrs. T. E. Davis
Treasurer,	Mrs. Henry Swingholm
Secretary,	Mrs. Glen Webber

The club held its third Annual Violet Tour in the fall. Three days were set aside for visiting and members held open house displaying their plants and methods of growing.

A spring show will be held at the Joslyn Memorial Hall, 22nd and Dodge St., Omaha, on Saturday, March 31 from 10 A. M. to 5:30 P. M. and on Sunday, April 1, from 2 P. M. to 6 P. M. The newest in "Violets" will be shown.

JACKSON MICHIGAN

On November 15, 1950, Mrs. Dale Ferrall of Battle Creek, Regional Director, met with a group to plan a new African Violet Society in Jackson, Michigan. The officers elected were:

President, Mrs. R. S. Preston
Vice-Pres., Mrs. C. R. Clemet
Secretary, Mrs. D. L. Bowers
Treasurer, Mrs. F. S. Thompson.

WEBSTER GROVES SOCIETY

The Viking African Violet Club met Wednesday, November 8, at the home of Mrs. O. R. Allgeier, Webster Groves, Missouri, for the final meeting of the first club year. Before the business meeting, refreshments of tea and coffee with cookies were served by the hostess.

Members responded to roll call with a report on "Progress with African Violets During this Year." Annual reports of all officers and committees were given. Plans were completed for a field trip to visit a wholesale greenhouse specializing in African Violets. Four new members were admitted to the club, completing the roster which is limited to twenty-four members, all of whom are members of the African Violet Society of America, Inc.

The following were elected to office for 1951:

President, Mrs. H. R. Kreitz, St. Louis
Vice-Pres., Mrs. F. D. Wayman, Webster Groves
Rec. Sec'y., Mrs. Robt. Thumser, St. Louis
Cor. Sec'y., Mrs. S. H. Huston, Webster Groves
Treasurer, Mrs. B. F Hines, Kirkwood

Following the business meeting the program "Pests and Diseases of African Violets" was presented by Mrs. J. R. Counts. Specimens of diseased plants were shown and provoked a lively discussion of prevention and cure of violet troubles.

UNIQUE SAINTPAULIA SOCIETY

On September 26, the first African Violet Society of Elgin, Illinois, was formed under the name of Unique Saintpaulia Society. This name was chosen in honor of Mrs. John Wills' Unique Violet. Thirteen charter members were present, and it was voted to limit each group to twenty members.

The following officers were elected:
President, Mrs. Fred Behling
Vice-Pres., Mrs. Joseph Oyka
Secretary, Mrs. Lillian Jaconson
Treasurer, Mrs. Helen Walker
Program & Research, Mrs. John C. Wills
Scrapbook, Miss Velda Lindholm
Correspondent, Mrs. Helen Walker
Transportation & Tours, Mrs. Ernest Benson

NEW CLUB IN ELGIN

In October, the second Elgin Violet Society was formed with eight charter members. The name is still to be considered. The following officers were elected for this group:

President, Mrs. Stanley McBride
Vice-Pres., Mrs. Richard Schnell
Secretary, Mrs. H. E. Benner
Treasurer, Mrs. Wm. Sparks
Correspondent, Mrs. Wm. Eddy
Transportation, Mrs. Ernest Burren
Consultant, Mrs. John C. Wills

No regular meeting dates will be arranged until after January 1. Each club now meets once a month, and plans are being made for the formation of a third club.

BORDER CITIES CLUB

On November 27, 1950, twenty-seven ladies met at the home of Mrs. Ida Aboud and organized the Border Cities African Violet Club. This name was selected because the members live in and around Detroit, with many members from Windsor, Canada. The membership has now reached 60 members.

Officers elected for a six month period are:

President, Mrs. Jack Lucoff
Vice-Pres., Mrs. Donald Wright
Treasurer, Mrs. John Aboud
Rec. Secy., Mrs. Ronald Reaume
Corres. Secy., Mr. Edward Gawel
Program Chm., Mrs. John Biel

MY LADY ELIZABETH VIOLET CLUB

In May, 1950, a group of North and Northeast Minneapolis women met at the home of Mrs. Henkel and organized the My Lady Elizabeth Violet Club, a branch of the Twin City Violet Club. Meetings are held on the third Monday of the month in the homes of the various members. A dessert or salad luncheon is served.

Newly elected officers for 1950 are:
President, Mrs. Emil Zabinski
Sec.-Treas., Mrs. George R. Johnson

SAGINAW ORGANIZES

The Amethyst African Violet Club of Saginaw, Michigan, was recently organized with a membership of seven, all National members. Meetings are to be the first Tuesday of the month.

Officers elected are:
President, Mrs. Lynn M. Vogler
Vice-Pres., Mrs. William H. Gelow
Secretary, Mrs. James A. Rhea
Treasurer, Mrs. John Phillips
Program Chm., Mrs. Dorothy Zill
Sunshine Committee Chm., Mrs. Clara Schannecke
Membership Chm., Mrs. Paul F. Lange
Publicity Chm., Mrs. William H. Gelow

NEW SOCIETY IN LITTLE ROCK

The Little Rock African Violet Society was organized by Mrs. John R. Hackett, September 15, 1950. Forty-four Members were enrolled. The following officers were elected:

President, Mrs. H. D. Scott
Vice-Pres., Mr. Joe Sittlington
Rec. Sec'y., Mrs. Herman Thompson
Cor. Sec'y., Mrs. Zelma Pierce
Treasurer, Mrs. Wallace Davis
Program Chm., Mrs. Charles Wickard

Meetings will be held at 10:30 A. M., the second Friday of each month in the Little Rock Public Library.

The Society held its first African Violet Show on October 19 and 20, 1950, in the Hackett Seed Store. There were 98 entries in two divisions. Prizes were awarded blue ribbon winners in each color class, both single and double crown divisions. Mrs. Charles Wickard was Show Chairman. The show was judged by Mrs. Virginia Grey of "Russward." Jonesboro, Arkansas. The most outstanding plant in the show was duPont No. 3. exhibited by Mrs. R. B. Bidwell, Little Rock.

This was Little Rock's second African Violet Show, the first since the Society was organized, and much interest was evidenced by the fact that over 500 persons visited the exhibit.

HACKENSACK COUNTY SOCIETY

On November 29, 1950. the following officers were elected by the members of the Hackensack County African Violet Society of New Jersey:

President, Mrs. Emma Davis
Rec. Sec'y., Mrs. Mariette Cronin
Cor. Sec'y., Mrs. Robert Close
Treasurer, Mrs. Carl Sachs
Hospitality Chm., Mrs. L. Garnier
Membership Chm., Mrs. Marion Poirier
Publicity, Mrs. Emma Davis

Meetings are held five times a year, either in the homes or at the County Administration Building, on the fourth Thursday evening of the month.

Interest is growing in this club, who's membership now totals 18. Interest in growing African violets has been started by this group at the Old People's Home in the Bergen Pines County Home; the plants for this project are being furnished by the club members.

VIRGINIA SOCIETY

In March, 1950, the African Violet Society of Princess Anne County, Virginia, was formed with the following officers elected to office:

President, Mrs. Marion Ames
Honorary Pres., Mrs. Sally Monfort
Honorary Pres., Rev. Davis
Vice-Pres., Mrs. Dolly Shuford
Rec. Sec'y., Mrs. Flossie Lockwood

Fair Exhibit

Treasurer, Mrs. Rachel Hutchinson
Cor. Sec'y., Mrs. Jean Throm

A committee on constitution and by-laws presented a constitution patterned after the National Society.

Our first activity to bring the club before the public was to have a luncheon table set at the Princess Anne County Fair held in September at Virginia Beach. Violets of pink and purple were used for a centerpiece and on place cards. The display won a blue ribbon. It was outstanding and drew attention from visitors from all parts of the state. Many questions were asked about violets and much interest was shown. A scrap book has been started in which activity of the club will be kept; it will be placed on display at the fair next year to show the progress the club has made.

The membership quota is about filled and plans for a spring exhibit are being made by the club members.

SHOW AT AKRON

The African Violet Society of Akron held it's first competitive show October 9 and 10 at Polsky's second floor auditorium.

As it was the first show of its kind in this area, it was well attended, registering 860 guests the first day and 924 the second.

We had guests from as far as California, Florida, Colorado, and British West Indies, plus all the closer states to Ohio—in all numbering 30. Ohio had 58 cities represented.

Members had 229 plants on display, Commercials exhibited 303 plants, and the public brought 50. There were 135 distinct varieties on display.

The plant rated best in show, "Purple Beauty," was grown by Mrs. Louise Trunick. It was awarded blue and gold ribbons, and a gold trophy.

Judges were Mrs. Helen Pochurek of Cleveland, Mrs. Priscilla Landacker of Cincinnati, and Mrs. Helen MacMahon of Macedonia.

A propagation table drew a constant crowd to hear the club members tell about and show pollination and starting violets from cuttings.

We Visited Mrs. Wistler

Mardie Eckhardt, Md.

My husband and I like to have a destination when we go for a drive, and having heard of a lady who sold African violets in Pennsylvania, we decided to go see her.

As it turned out, she is a member of the African Violet Society.

She lives in a large house with wide windows all over the house, and a greenhouse at the back. As we approached the house and looked up, it was a picture. Violets in every window upstairs and down, front and back and sides. In the hall by the door on an antique what-not were violets, and beside each was a small wooden holder with the name on a card. Up the stairway were windows with glass shelves and violets on them. In the next room was a lovely bay window, with glass shelves filled with violets and just covered with blossoms.

After seeing all the violets, I asked her about the greenhouse, thinking there might be more. She said she didn't have any in the greenhouse but would rather raise them in the house; they do better and are less trouble.

I bought three violets from her, and the change did not set them back one bit. They are prettier than my own, even the one that was the same variety as one of my own.

So you, who are like myself, without a greenhouse, can take courage and grow African violets right in your own windows with wonderful success.

The lady was just as lovely as her violets, and we enjoyed our trip very much. Seeing other people who like the same thing as you do, African violets, and discussing them, gives one a contented feeling.

Get together with your friends, start a club, and grow African violets.

AN AFRICAN VIOLET SHOW

Every Day in the Year at GENT'S Greenhouses

ALWAYS OPEN

We have over 60 varieties - Thousands of plants continually in bloom.

Our prices are reasonable: 2¼ in. plants 50-75¢, 3 in. plants $1.00-$1.25, 4 in. plants $1.50-$2.00.

Newer Varieties Slightly Higher

These prices are at Greenhouse only. WE DO NOT SHIP.

Some of the new ones on our list are: Bronze Girl, Sailor Girl, Double Neptune, Blue Eyes Amazon, Congo Queen (Red duPont), Blue Warrior, Blue Eyed Beauty, White Girl, Fringette Series, Fantasy, Violet Beauty, Giant Light Blue, Double Light Blue, Gorgeous Bi-Color, Snow Prince.

We also sell wholesale 25 plants or more - Not less than 5 of a variety.

JOHN R. GENT

595 VOSBURG ROAD, WEBSTER, N. Y.

From Rochester take Culver Road through Sea Breeze - 2 miles to Vosburg Road.

Saintpaulia Leaf Rot

(The Florists' Review - May 12 1949)

ATTRIBUTED TO SOLUBLE SALTS

Preliminary experiments conducted by Donald Hickman, a graduate student in the division of floriculture of the University of Illinois, shed some light on the cause of saintpaulia leaves rotting when they come in contact with rims of pots. Salt crusts sometimes form on the rims of the pots, particularly when the plants are subirrigated, and the following experimental results indicate that salt concentrations of considerably less magnitude than those found in these crusts can cause rotting of the saintpaulia leaf petioles.

Cotton, kept constantly moist with distilled water, was placed in contact with the petioles of normally growing saintpaulia leaves. So long as distilled water was used to moisten the cotton, no injury to the petioles occurred. When, however, cotton moistened with a mineral salt solution was placed in contact with similar petioles, collapse of the petioles occurred in a short time. Deterioration of the petioles at the point of contact with the moist cotton was more advanced than in the surrounding area.

In a second series of tests, saintpaulia leaves, still growing and attached to the plants, were subjected to slight but regular drips of distilled water. The water was confined on the petioles by means of paraffin smears just above and below the point of contact. So long as the water was distilled no damage was done to the petioles. When, however, a mineral salt solution was substituted for the distilled water collapse of the petiole occurred. The collapse of the petioles was similar to that which occurs on petioles that rest on the rims of pots.

The results obtained with the drip method show that mineral salt solutions are capable of causing collapse of saintpaulia petioles.

Slight abrasion of the petioles by the rims of pots seems to contribute to collapse only when there is an accumulation of salts present on the rims.

Collapse was more rapid with some salts than with others, but generally occurred within a few days. If, when the first sign of collapse was noted distilled water was immediately substituted for the salt solution, revival occurred.

The salt injury seems to be similar to root injury from an overdose of fertilizers. Mr. Hickman suggests that some type of coating on the rims of the pot, such as metal foil, wax or paint, might stop this loss of lower leaves, which spoils the appearance of saintpaulia plants at maturity.

FANTASTIC GARDENS

It is so easy to propagate EPISCIAS that we are now able to offer these choice tropical plants at reduced prices and also able to list several brand new varieties.

Episcia coccinea—Brownish hairy leaves with silvery green veins ..... $ .75
E. cupreata—Hairy copper-colored leaves ..... .75
E. cupreata var. Viridifolia—Smooth nile green leaves; best bloomer ..... .75
E. cupreata var. Silver Sheen—Leaves bright silver with darker margin 1.00
E. splendens—Smooth light green and silver leaves ..... .75
E. lilacina—Bronze leaves with broad iridescent lilac midrib 1.00
E. sp.—Unnamed, smooth silvery green leaves with brown margin, distinct, free flowering ... 1.50
All above varieties have scarlet flowers
E. chontalensis—Small dark green leaves, light blue fringed flowers 1.00

Collection of above eight varieties—$6.00 postpaid

Orders of $5.00 or over sent postpaid, for smaller orders, add $.50. Will start shipping the end of April.

Send for price list.

R. G. WILSON

Route 2, Box 594, Miami, Florida

AFRICAN VIOLET WIDOWER

Pardon me, did you say African Violets?
Or maybe they're just running thru my head
At home I see them every where I look,
They are even all over my bed.

My darling wife really has the craze,
She has them pink, purple, blue and white.
She transplants them all day long,
And then waters them half of the night.

From dawn 'til dark I hear nothing else,
Its Red Head, Blue Boy, Trilby or Blue Girl,
Amethyst, Sailor Boy, Neptune or Viking,
No wonder my head's in such a whirl.

They're in the bed room, dining room, kitchen
All over the walls and the floor,
They're even in the bath tub,
Every day brings more and more!

So I am an African Violet widower,
I don't know if I'm a husband or not,
I expect to find myself some day,
Planted in a little red clay pot.

S. B. Jack

(Reprinted from Vol. 1 No. 1)

ORDER BY MAIL
CLIP THIS
AFRICAN VIOLETS
35c
3--$1
10--$3
Started Plants Ready to Pot
THESE 35c ea., 3—$1 Double Duchess. Sapphire Blue Boy Blue Bird Blue Girl, Sailor Boy.
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THESE 70c ea. 6—$4—Violet Beauty Sailors Girl Ruffles Regal Rose. Red King. Blue Velvet. Orchid Girl.
THESE $1 ea., 6—$5—Lady Geneva Double Orchid. Black Beauty. Double Neptune. Double Light Lavender Double Light Blue. Gorgeous Pink Girl—ALL LABELED.
Free Descriptive List. Enclose Cash Check or Money Order, plus 15c postage, packing. Ohio residents add 3% Sales Tax. Orders $1 or more, sent C.O.D. Free growing instructions with all orders.
Violet Soil. 50c pkg. Vermiculite for starting leaves. 50c pkg. Post paid Visit our Green Houses. Return for refund if not pleased.
Rosebud FLORAL CO.
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DOUBLE TROUBLE?

Mardie Eckhardt, Md.

I too had "Double Trouble", and last year I said that I was not going to grow doubles any more-- but loving them as I do, I decided to try again.

My trouble was the same as that discussed in an earlier Magazine. I had buds galore but they never opened into nice blossoms. So I decided to investigate when possible and try to see what caused this.

First, I found that, as Anne Tinari recommended, they do need more water. But more water still did not make the buds open.

At this time I had a large Double Russian just loaded with buds and not one would open. While repotting some small plants I thought I would see what repotting would do for this large uncooperating double. To my surprise, when I tried to push it from the pot there was a large air pocket in the bottom where the soil had washed out. This made it hard for the plant to get food and water as easily as it should. I lifted it out of the pot and filled in with soil the space at the bottom. Soon it was apparent that my Double Russian was going to bloom for me. The buds matured and the plant was in full bloom the way I wanted it to be.

Since that time I have had fine results with other plants that were slow to bloom -- I just push them down firmly in the pot and they take hold more readily.

I also take a small stick and push it down in the soil at the side of the pot and add more soil. In some pots I have had to add as much as 1/4 cup. (This will help the plant that is always dropping a leaf at the side.) Firm the soil enough to be sure your plant will not wobble or lose soil out of the bottom of the pot.

Doubles that have the right care will bloom. I now plan to get others, as the flowers stay on so long. I hope that my experience will help those who are having "Double Trouble" to solve their difficulties, so they will be doing as I am — looking for more doubles.

Sulphur and Parathion

Reprinted with permission of Florist Review

Although Parathion has given excellent results with injury only to a limited number of plants (crassulas, Boston ferns, kalanchoes and a few varieties of chrysanthemums), you will run into serious trouble if you use it when the plants have sulphur in any form on them or if you use sulphur while the Parathion is present on the plants.

The length of time necessary to allow between applications of either of these two materials would vary, depending upon the method of application. Observations indicate that it is safe to use sulphur about ten days after Parathion has been applied in aerosol form. If it has been applied as a spray, it seems better to wait a little longer before dusting, spraying or fumigating with sulphur.

To avoid injury and to get the maximum kill, be sure that the temperature is 75 degrees Fahrenheit or higher. When using aerosols, keep the house closed for at least two hours following fumigation; then for additional results close the house down for about two hours each day for the next three or four days to get the full residual effect on the plants. Avoid high humidity, and be sure that the plants are dry when the application is made.

Parathion still looks like the best all-around insecticide for aphis, cabbage loopers, centipedes, crickets, cutworms, rose beetles, white flies, leaf miners, leaf rollers, mealy bugs, midge, mites, sow bugs, thrips and tarnished plant bugs.

Two or four applications may be necessary to win complete control of aphis, greenhouse leaf tiers, leaf miners, leaf rollers, mealy bugs and thrips. Three applications may be necessary on midge.

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AFRICAN VIOLET JARDINIERE

BEAUTIFUL SOLID BRASS SELF-IRRIGATING - - PLANTS REQUIRE WATERING ONLY ONCE A WEEK FROM THE BOTTOM TROUGH. ELIMINATES ALL DAILY WATERING.

ORNAMENTAL - - ATTRACTIVE

WILL NOT MAR FURNITURE

SIZE 5 INCHES HIGH. LOVELY FLARED TOP ABOUT 5 INCHES WIDE

Simply place clay pot in jardiniere and your violets will keep healthy and blooming. You will be pleased with the gratifying results.

WONDERFUL AS A GIFT FOR YOUR FRIENDS WHO HAVE AFRICAN VIOLETS. SOMETHING BRAND NEW AND ENTIRELY DIFFERENT.

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TWO FINE NEW PRODUCTS FOR YOUR VIOLETS . . . .

VIOLET LAZY SUZAN

Our Violet Lazy Suzan is the last word in proper display for those favorite house plants. A gentle push will revolve the three tiers in the pedestal. This feature enables you to change the position of your plants which is important in the proper culture of plants that receive indirect sunlight. All plants are made readily accessible for watering and other care with practically no effort.

The Suzan is a very useful table in many other ways in the home. It is well constructed of plywood; weighs 17 lbs.; is 40" in height with 10" between tiers. It is 24" in diameter and the tiers will hold 10 to 12 large plants or 20 to 24 small ones. Available in natural finish only or unfinished and ready for staining to match surrounding furniture.

Prices - Parcel Post Prepaid:

Violet Lazy Suzan Unfinished @ $12.50
Violet Lazy Suzan - Finished @ $14.95

Gro-Mulch is the wonderful new all organic material that is being talked about in garden circles. Gro-Mulch is mellowed in the aging deposits of Spanish Moss that have lain for over 50 years in the bayou section of South Louisiana. Earthworms that are attracted by the tender moss particles, have converted the deposits into a superlatively rich soil conditioner. The deposits are recovered, dehydrated, refined and packed into bags for your use.

A mixture of one part Gro-Mulch to two parts of soil will make a superlatively rich medium in which to grow your plants. The luxuriant growth and colorful blooms in greater quantities will delight you.

ASK FOR THE NEW 2 POUND PACKAGE AT YOUR FAVORITE 5 & 10¢ STORE

10 Pound Bag Prepaid Parcel Post @ $2.00

(Add 75¢ extra postage to Western States)

80 Pound Bag - Motor Freight Collect @ $7.00

GRO-MULCH
A PRODUCT FOR THE PROUD GARDENER
MULCHES AND AIDS GROWTH IN ONE OPERATION
THE NEW ALL ORGANIC SOIL CONDITIONER
RECOMMENDED FOR ALL FLOWERS, VEGETABLES & PLANTS
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YOU NEED NOT TAKE OUR WORD!

Virdans reputation for integrity, extra care in wrapping and shipping, and highest quality healthy plants is attested to by thousands of customers coast to coast. Here are just a few comments from customers' recent letters:

I received my African Violets today and I am really thrilled with them, they are in perfect condition and far better than I had expected.

You see, I got some from another farm and they were beyond saving, so these being so healthy and strong and so nice packed I am really very happy.

(New York)

I have purchased African Violets from many sources, paying as high as $10.00 for Special plants, but never have I had greater satisfaction than this morning when I received the plants from you.

You may be certain that I shall be a regular purchaser in the future. The plants could not have been in better condition had I purchased them from a florist and carried them away. To think that they came thru the mails, at this time of year, in perfect condition clearly shows the care you take in preparing them for shipment.

(Connecticut)

Please send me 5 pounds of your Virdans African Violet Soil. I ordered 2 lbs. from you in the early fall and like it so much. My new violets are growing so fast and look so healthy in your soil.

(Georgia)

Have had wonderful results with your soil; some of the stamens grow all around the center of flower and the flowers are large and numerous.

(Ohio)

The two Lady Genevas came in today. Like all the other violets I have received from you, they were in perfect condition, big, fine plants, apparently none the worse for their trip. Nothing I can say is too much in praise of your plants.

(Kentucky)

Please send me three 5 lb. bags African Violet Soil at your earliest convenience. My violets are blooming gorgeously and a maidenhair fern to which I gave a taste of the soil has never grown so beautifully. Your soil must have magic, for the foliage as well as the flowers on my plants are the envy of all who see them.

(New Jersey)

Women earn extra cash at home easily, pleasantly by showing Virdans First Aid Kit, Soil, and Plant Tonic to friends and neighbors. Write us for full details if interested.

NEW SPRING VARIETIES

These are all strong, healthy plants, out of 3" pots, in bud or in bloom. Carefully wrapped, shipped insured mail. Guaranteed to arrive in excellent condition—or your money cheerfully refunded.

SNOW GIRL, pure white
SNOW PRINCE, pure white
DOUBLE SEA GIRL
ROSE MARIE
SUPREME DOUBLE NEPTUNE
Deep blue, perfect double flower
GORGEOUS BRONZE BI-COLOR
Deep reddish two-tone blossom, bronze type foliage.

$3.50 each, or 2 for $6.00 postpaid.

VIRDANS PLANT TONIC

Monthly feedings with this tonic will bring even most stubborn plants into bloom. The only plant food prepared especially for African Violets. Generous package lasts for months—only $1.25 postpaid in U. S.

VIRDANS FIRST AID KIT

for African Violets, other house plants. Contains everything needed to protect them from thrips, mealybugs, many dangerous pests. Easy to use, full instructions with each kit. Complete kit by mail only $3.00 postpaid in U. S.

VIRDANS "MAGIC" SOIL

WILL MAKE YOUR VIOLETS BLOOM

Like magic, your African Violets will burst into bloom when you plant them in this specially prepared soil. Thousands of customers' letters prove it. Potting and transplanting instructions in each package. Sterilized with Soilene. 2 lbs. $1.25 postpaid or 5 lbs. for $2.25 postpaid.

USE THIS EASY-ORDER COUPON

WIK-FED POTS

Perfect for African Violets; watering from base creates ideal growing conditions. Bases black, pots in choice of: Blue, Green, Yellow, Ivory, Lavender, Red, Pink; all beautiful Styron plastic. Complete set of pot, base, wick for only $1.15 postpaid; 6 sets for $6.00 postpaid. Order Today.

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Gentlemen: Please send me the following:

_____ African violets $_____
(list varieties separately)

_____ Pkgs. Virdans Soil $_____

_____ Pkgs. Virdans Plant Tonic $_____

_____ WIK-FED pots $_____
(list colors wanted separately)

Name _____

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City or State _____

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Box 123 Phelps, N. Y.

TINARI'S

TINARI'S MOST BEAUTIFUL AND POPULAR VARIETIES (now at greater production, lower prices) left to right as pictured. Amazon Blue Eyes, $1.00 each. America, $1.75 each. Helen Wilson, $1.50 each. All three for $4.00.

All outstanding varieties at greater production prices.

White Girl, Mammoth Red, Mammoth Blue, White Fringette, Mauve Fringette, $1.50 each.

Fantasy, Red King, Georgeous Bi-Color, Violet Beauty, Blue Flute, Sailor Girl, Amazon Pink, Lav. Girl Hybrid, Double Mentor Boy, Orchid Neptune, Purple Girl, Double Neptune, Pale Orchid Double, $1.00 each, 8 for $7.50, postpaid.

Lady Geneva, Blue Eyes, Red Land, Amethyst, Neptune, Double Margaret, DuPont Blue, Blue Warrior, Burgandy, Jessie, Admiral, Red Bi-Color, Tinted Lady, White Waterlily, Crinkles, Double Orchid, Kewensis, Mentor Boy, Plum Satin, Purple Prince, Pink Beauty, Du Pont Lavender Pink . . . 75¢ each. Ten for $7.00, Postpaid.

Plants chosen from large stock of 100,000 plants.

All orders over $7.00 sent postpaid. Under, add 50c.

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